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# THE ROUMANIAN ATROCITIES

OVER THE BULGARIAN  
POPULATION OF DOBROUDJA  
ABDUCTED INTO MOLDOVA

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TO THE MEMORY

OF MY DEAR FATHER

YANKO K. PATCHOFF

NATIVE OF TULTCHA

BRUTALLY KILLED BY A ROUMANIAN AT DELENI, MOLDOVA

AUG. 3, 1917

THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED

DRAGOMIR PATCHOFF

6-26-1990 J. V. Marshall



## Preface

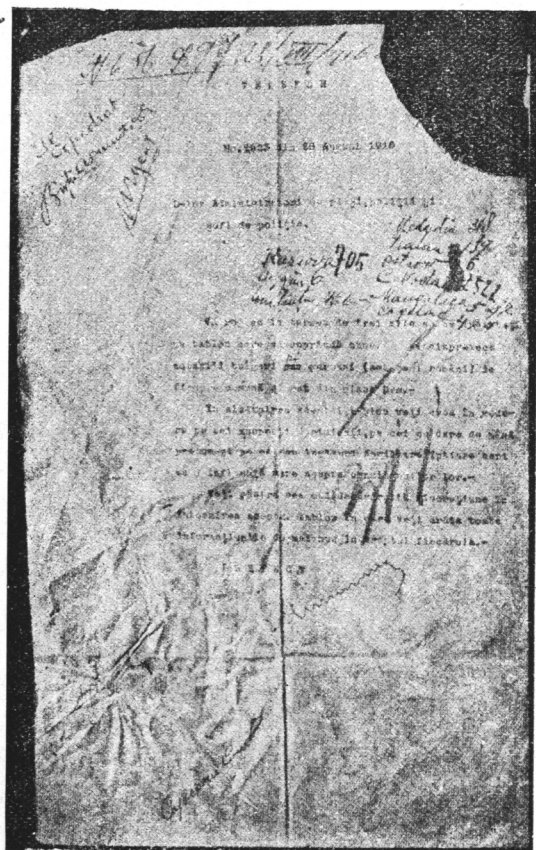
The present volume is not an act of accusation against the Roumanians and their government: it is not exhaustive enough to be such, nor does it possess the necessary classifications of all the crimes committed. It appears to us that the course of events will eventually produce such an act of accusation, comprising documents, memoirs and experiences which would show the world how far down a nation could fall to whom circumstances, perchance, have given the vain idea that it is called upon to play the biggest rôle in the history of mankind. At present we are registering only what we have heard and written down, not from eye witnesses, but from the very martyrs of Roumanian atrocities. The stories are being recited as they have been heard: without embellishment or improvement in style. This manner of presenting the matter is preferable because we do not wish to add a single word to the narrative; otherwise, the boundary line between the real and that which is added would have been effaced completely.

Why then do we publish these pages of Roumanian outrages perpetrated upon the peaceful Bulgarian population? Do we seek to increase the existing hatred between the two races, or do we wish to calumniate a nation with whom we are at war? Neither one thing nor the other. Our only object has been to produce a martyrology which will point out to all future generations of united Bulgaria





## A DOCUMENT OF ROUMANIAN CRUELTY.



Before declaration of war the Roumanian government took a series of barbarous measures against its own subjects of Bulgarian, Turkish and German nationality throughout the land, and especially in Dobroudja. The Roumanians were particularly cruel with the Bulgarian population of southern Dobroudja. The newspaper „Dobroudja“ has published a list of thousands of Bulgarians arrested and carried away by the Roumanians before commencement of hostilities. Some of them have been killed outright, others, after atrocious tortures, have

died on the way ; others still, after managing to reach Moldova, have been submitted to a most severe jail treatment, as will be seen from the present volume.

The abduction of Bulgarians was not done by chance, or at the instigation of local authorities, but by an explicit order from the central government. The adjoining fac-similé is a reproduction of the prefect's order of Constantza concerning the detention and abduction of Bulgarians and Germans. Here is the English translation :

To the sous-prefects, chiefs of police and commandants of cities.

Medjidie 318, Trayan 139, Ostrov 6, Tchernavoda 522, Mangalia 547, Kodjalak 424, Hersovo 705, Kousgoun 6, Constantza 466.

You are hereby requested to present to us within three days a list of names of fifteen prominent Bulgarians and Germans (Roumanian subjects) of all townships and villages in your county.

In making up these lists you will keep in view persons suspected, not already exiled, wealthy, and those having wide family connections and exercising certain influence over their countrymen.

You will exercise the greatest caution in making up these lists, giving out for every name the desired information.

(Signed) The Prefect

**G. Mumuianu.**

It is clear from this order of the Prefect Mumuianu that even before the 28<sup>th</sup> of August many citizens have been carried away in captivity.

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## The Abduction

For about sixty consecutive numbers the daily paper „Dobroudja“ has published, classified by villages and cities, a very long list of names — men, women and children — abducted year before last by the Roumanian authorities and condemned to privation and exile. From the village of Almalii alone, numbering 1819 inhabitants, fully 1534 persons were abducted, among them 138 children below 3 years, and 38 old men between the age of 75 and 105. From Tutrakan 691 were abducted, from Dobritch 515, from Tultcha 233, from Kavarna 134, from Silistra 327, from Kalipetrovo 384, from Golema Kainardja 145; from the village Kara-Omour, near Silistra, 684; from Aidemir 271, from Malka Kainardja 117, from Vetren 162, from Sreberna 104, from Popina 115, from Hassu-Kiosseler, near Dobritch, 175; from Karalez 94, and from each of the several hundred villages of Dobroudja roughly between 50—100 souls, which brings up the grand total to more than 25,000 men, women and children, the great majority of them being Roumanian citizens.

In the course of 15 days before Roumania's participation in the war from Southern Dobroudja alone 17,518 men, women and children were sent to the other side of the Danube as hostages. The county of Silistra gave 9641 persons, that of Tutrakan 2293, Kourtboundar 1014, and Dobritch 4567.

The exactness of the figures given above, and all

other data presented in this work, can easily be verified at the localities where the victims were born, by a commission composed of representatives of neutral states. In fact the Roumanian Foreign ministry officially recognized this act of abduction by sending to the Bulgarian government, through the repeated efforts of the Swiss Legation in Roumania, an incomplete list of Bulgarians who had been seized by the police and sent into exile to Moldova, all of them being Roumanian citizens. They were all Bulgarians from Tultcha, Constantza, Dobritch, Tutrakan, Isaktcha and other towns and villages in Dobroudja. The lists were signed by Mr. Burgel, general secretary of the Minister of Foreign Affairs at Bucarest.

The justice of these accusations against the Roumanian government, for the outrageous treatment of the peaceful population of Dobroudja and the subjects of the Central Powers living in Roumania, is confirmed by other official documents as well, namely, Note № 164 of the 10<sup>th</sup> November, presented to the Roumanian Minister of Foreign Affairs by the Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, Note № 2308 of 3<sup>d</sup> November of the Plenipotentiary Minister of Holland, also the report of 3<sup>rd</sup> of June this year addressed to the International Committee of the Red Cross Society at Geneva, from the Swiss Chargé d'Affaires in Roumania, and printed in the *Nouvelles de l'Agence Internationale des prisonniers de guerre*, of Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> this year.

The Roumanian outrages against the peaceful and innocent population of Dobroudja are notorious. The wholesale murder of women, children and old men committed last year by Roumanian soldiers and gendarmes at Baladja, Dobritch (the list is given below), Karalez, Kokardja, Rahovo, Slivo-Pole, Sreberna (see photographs) and other



Wholesale murder of defenceless Bulgarian population at Dobritch (Photographed by Mr. Warfield, Chargé d'Affaires of the U. S. of America.)





Massacred by Roumanians at Sreberna, near Silistra,

places, are proved and published by an unprejudiced committee of inquiry, where a representative of the United States of America took part. In Dobritch alone on the 3<sup>d</sup> of September, 1916, 57 innocent citizens were shot. The list is printed in „Dobroudja“ № 46.

Here is another official report which gives a picture of the fate of those abducted during the first few days of their exile in Roumania.



## To the Commandant of Silistra

In accordance with the wish expressed upon the occasion of my presentation to you after my return from Braila, I have the honour to present to you the following facts, seen and heard by me, dealing with the fate of many of our co-nationalists and citizens abducted by the Roumanian authorities the day of their mobilization and in the course of their defeat in Northern and Southern Dobroudja.

The 30<sup>th</sup> of August, 1916, I left Silistra on my way to Dorohoi, Northern Moldova, where all the reserve officers of Bulgarian extraction, inhabiting that part of Southern Dobroudja occupied by the Roumanians since 1913, were to be assembled. On my way to the station in Kalarash I saw several of our prominent men of Silistra sitting close to the barracks, taken away from their homes the night of the 28<sup>th</sup> of August, but dared not approach them, for they were strongly guarded. I remained at the station until 3 o'clock after midnight, but one hour before that I saw them bringing in a great many prominent villagers arrested several days before mobilization was declared. At that time I saw many a revolting scene and inhuman treatment, met by cries of approbation on the part of Roumanian soldiers and citizens, chief among them being the head of the financial administration Manaël, assistant engineer George Baraku, a Macedonian from Prilep, the cashier of the Banca Rumaneasca, reserve officer Leontescu, etc., all of them urging the onlookers, that it would be



Bulgarians from Sreberna, a village near Silistra, massacred by the Roumanians. (Photograph by Mr. Warfield, Chargé d'Affaires of the United States of America).





Another family murdered by the blood-thirsty Roumanians.



much better to kill all these Bulgarians rather than to feed them at the expense of the state.

„Enough of this criminal tolerance“, they said, „towards a barbarous nation, towards these huns and tartars; their very seed ought to disappear from the face of the earth,“ and they all blamed the prefect, M. Kamarashescu, for his lenient(?) treatment of the Bulgarian population. A major, evidently appointed for that purpose, was arranging the prisoners in the railway trucks, releasing their tied hands with curses peculiar to the Roumanian tongue, and while striking them on the face, he would hand them over to his soldiers, who finished the work of torture the best they knew how. As many as fifty persons were put into a truck, and the door was shut and locked, notwithstanding the great heat of the season. I could recognize in the dark several people from Almalii, among them being the mayor of the village Ivan Molloff, the priest Shikoff from Kalipetrovo, Grigor Arnaoudoff from Aide-mir, and the venerable priest from Kara-Omour who, according to rumour, has since died. The same procedure and the same treatment awaited the prominent Turks, hodjas and hatipes, abducted in the same brutal manner as the Bulgarians.

On my way to Slatina, where I had my appointment in the 3<sup>d</sup> Infantry Regiment, I had to stop in Bucarest on account of illness, at first at the hotel and later on in the military hospital. Few days before my entrance into the hospital, while passing with a carriage before the City Hall, I saw in the court about 200 village-women from Dobroudja, who that same afternoon were shot to death by the Roumanians, in the place named Malmaison, serving as shooting grounds. This is confirmed by the late director of Banca Agricola, Mr. Rapt. They were shot upon the also accusation that they had pursued the retreating Rou-

manian soldiers with axes and throwing hot water upon them. Both the press and public opinion held that the catastrophe of Tutrakan was due to Bulgarian spies, that the panic had been caused by Bulgarians dressed in Roumanian military uniform who had run through the streets of Silistra and Tutrakan and had cried in Roumanian: „Run for your lives, for the Bulgarians are coming and are butchering everything in their way.“ This had created a panic among the soldiers and the population, the result of which was the fall of Tutrakan and Silistra. This was chronicled in the Roumanian newspapers „Adevarul“ and „Dimineatsa“ (do not remember what number). I learnt afterward that our Silistra people had been taken to Galatz, the Bulgarian subjects to the county of Ialomitza, and the villagers to the counties of Dorohoi and Botoshani, Northern Moldova. I learned from a Hebrew by the name of Navon, who had been abducted and interned together with our countrymen in Galatz, but subsequently given his liberty by the use of money and influential friends, that all our countrymen, men as well as women, have been searched, money and everything valuable has been confiscated by the police officers, without any receipt being issued. From the well-to-do merchant Radi Bratoeff alone the Sub-Commisary Sharbanescu had taken 18,000 levas. For a certain time our countrymen were being installed in the barracks and were being tolerably well treated by the chief of the guard, a captain; later on, however, the captain had been replaced by another officer, who was the incarnation of everything cruel and barbarous, and the prisoners were thrown into the slaughter-house in a big hangar where they had to sleep on the cement floor without blankets. Before my departure from Braila I learned that they too have been sent by foot to Northern Moldova.

The young man from Tutrakan, Dimiter Tevekeleff,



Massacred by Roumanians at Sreberna, near Silistra.



Massacred by Roumanians at Sreberna, near Silistra.



with whom I was hidden in Braila for over a month until we were released by the arrival of our brave troops, gave me the following details of his sufferings and those of his comrades. Few days before the mobilization all young men from Silistra, Dobritch, Baltchik, Kavarna and Tutra-kan, who have never served as soldiers, had been assembled at Kalarash and immediately arrested and put in a stable where they were kept for three days without food and without water, while the soldiers on guard had received the instructions that if any of them attempts to go out in search of food or for any other reason whatsoever, he is to be shot dead. At the expiration of three days they were allowed some food and water, but every day they were being subjected to ill-treatment on the part of both officers and men, who threatened to shoot them on the least provocation. They were exposed to that kind of treatment for over two months, after which they were transported to Braila to dig trenches.

At the railway station Faurei, between Buzeu and Braila, they learned that two months ago the abducted people from Kalipetrovo, Kara-Omour, Almalii, etc., had been there, and after they had been deprived of all their horses and carriages, and after all their furniture had been burned, they had been driven north by foot to Dorohoi. Many of these, especially children, died on the way from fatigue and hunger. Several of the young men with Tevekeleff managed to keep themselves in hiding and secured their liberty on the arrival of our troops in Braila; the rest were taken to Moldova and Bessarabia.

This same Tevekeleff states that in the same building where they were kept under arrest in Kalarash several villagers, who had been abducted together with their carriages full of grain, had been shot down by the Roumanians. I have learned from other sources that the vil-



lagers who have been taken to Moldova as prisoners have been very badly treated, and as the result of famine and disease more than half of them are dead.

In Bucarest I saw a very characteristic scene: About the 28<sup>th</sup> of September, if I mistake not, fully twenty Turks and one Bulgarian were being paraded through the streets, subject to all sorts of abuses. The Bulgarian prisoner was wounded in the eye and could scarcely stand on his feet. People were spitting on them and urged the guard to kill them. In spite of all my efforts, I could not ascertain what became of them.

I would add in conclusion that the Roumanian press, public opinion, theatres, cinematographs, everybody of that epoch was very badly disposed towards the Bulgarians (Germans, Austrians and Turks did not suffer so much). Their catastrophe was considered as an unlucky phase of the war, and they expected to see the day when everything Bulgarian should be put to sword and fire. A special record in this agitation held the newspapers „Adeverul,” „Dimineatsa“ and „Epoha,” while articles of the chief editor Const. Mille breathed a special hatred for the Bulgarians and Bulgaria.

These are the facts which I have either seen personally or which have been related to me by responsible parties, in whose veracity I have not the least doubt.

Nov. 1, 1917 Silistra.

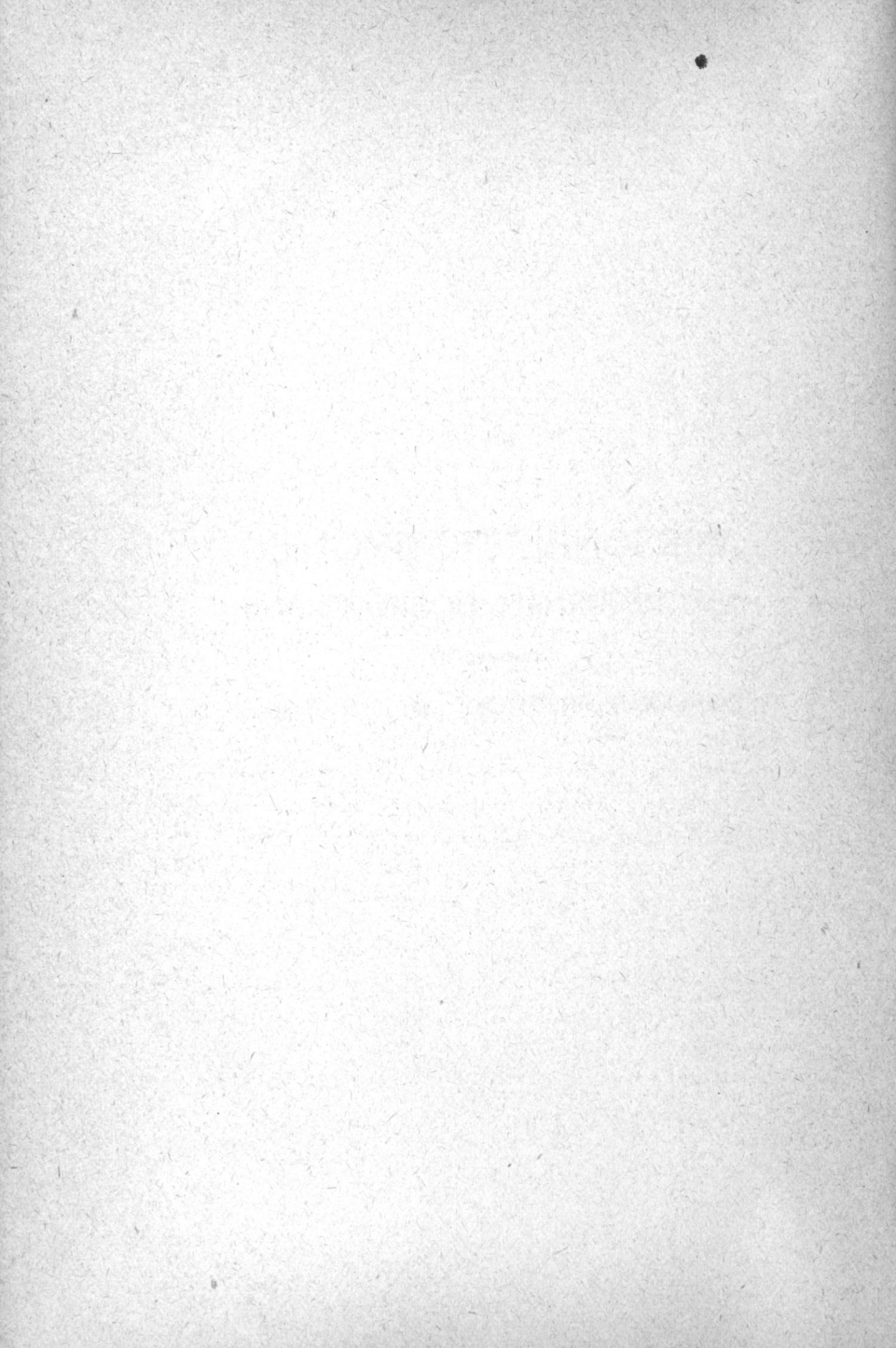
**P. Babadjanoff**

(Late member of the Chamber of Deputies)

PERSONAL TESTIMONIES  
OF RETURNED DOBROUDJANS

Collected by

DRAGOMIR PATCHOFF and D. KATZEFF



## I.

For some days past several Bulgarians from Dobroudja have escaped the prison camps of Roumania and are bringing with them the unnecessary confirmation of everything that the newspapers have said in regard to Roumanian atrocities.

In the history of nations nothing similar is remembered. This is a new kind of barbarism. We will not use high-sounding phrases, but we will prove our statements with facts.

Behold these unfortunate people with their spirits crushed and their bodies enfeebled by long-standing misery and famine, whose hairs stand on end and whose eyes widen with terror when Roumania or the Roumanian army is mentioned to them, — behold them with tears in their eyes how they relate their sufferings.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of August, 1916, on the eve of the declaration of general mobilization, in some places even after that date, bands of armed soldiers accompanied by officers, and at midnight, forced the private dwellings of peaceful citizens and arrested half naked men, women and children. Some were led into Kalarash by way of Silistra, others by way of Tultcha into Galatz, where in November were assembled fully 8000 persons.



**This is the testimony of Mihail Krusteff, native of Tultcha, living lately in Silistra, 36 years, a wealthy farm-owner, who escaped the Roumanian Captivity in December, 1917, and who arrived at Sofia Jan 10, after enduring many sufferings and privations.**

After our high-handed arrest and abduction general mobilization was declared. The prefect and the mayor told us that none of us need fear any harm, for the people of Roumania are cultured and humane. But it did not turn out so. We crossed over to Kalarash and were thrown half naked in the barracks. Women and children, finding themselves surrounded suddenly by misery and privation, cried and fell unconscious on the floor. The mayor of Kalarash together with members of the Ladies' Benevolent Society came to our assistance and offered their services to cross over to Silistra and bring clothing from our homes. The clothing was brought over, but we never saw it.

The Officer's Candidate Ionescu visited us with the most cynical words, crying at the top of his voice: —

„This nasty and barbarous Bulgarian nation ought to disappear from the face of the earth.“ The 8<sup>th</sup> of September the sound of the guns was heard nearer. We concluded that the Roumanians are being beaten and are retreating, and of course we were happy over it, but it was not for long. Captain Kiriak entered, gave us an atrocious look and cried: —

„Get in all of you, or else, —“ and pulled out his

revolver. We were immediately surrounded by soldiers, who struck at the women and children and commanded them to lie flat on the ground, or else they all will be shot dead. Those that were better dressed were ordered to sweep the floors and clean the closets. We were kept under lock until the 18 of September when we embarked on the train for Galatz. The women were put under an awful regime. Their natural desires were being satisfied in the presence of the soldiers, being exposed to all sorts of abuses. In Galatz we found many people from Tultcha and about 7000 villagers from Doproudja. While we were being led through the streets in a spectacular manner many Roumanian soldiers, men, women, children, even officers were spitting upon us, throwing stones and other things, pulling the clothes of the women, cursing us and urging the soldiers to drown us in the Danube. „Death to the Bulgarians!“ This cry terrified our very souls.

We were separated from the villagers and were installed in a dilapidated mill, while all the single men were put in the slaughter house. Sleeping upon the cement floor without covering made them all sick with cold and rheumatism, and several of them died. The villagers were housed in stables and old barracks, and very soon cholera appeared among them. No one took any measures to stop this awful scourge, while the authorities appeared to look rather favorably upon this ally of theirs which was going to rid them of the hateful Bulgarians.

Miss Petronova, a student of medicine from Silistra, at the risk of her life volunteered her services to give medical aid to the sufferers, but without avail.

In order to get better treatment we turned to the commandant, Capt. Ionak, whom we bribed to allow us to buy food from the outside; but there were days when

Capt. Ionak was loser in cards, then he would appear furious before us and would say:

„ I am good, very good ; but when I go mad I am a beast!“

And in order to assuage his wrath we made good his losses at cards by giving him another 5000 levas.

An order came that we should leave Galatz, but the order was countermanded after we paid ten thousand levas.

By that time Capt. Ionak was replaced as commandant by Capt. Fulga, who took 10,000 levas from the Silistra people and 30,000 from those of Tultcha to act for our liberation.

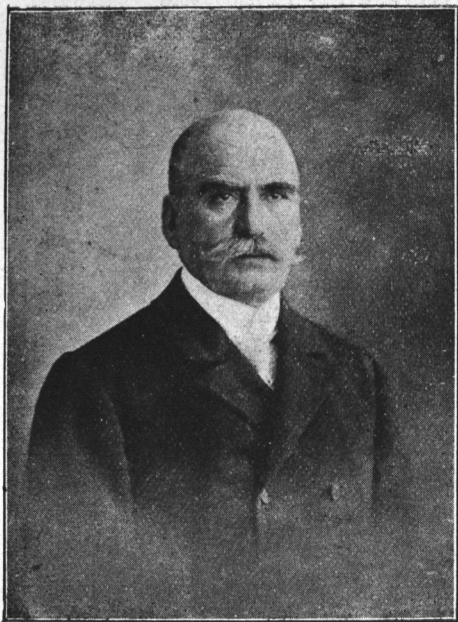
The fact of the matter was that we were liberated, but ten days later we were all re-arrested by the secret agents.

In the beginning of April, 1917, we were being rapidly transported away from Galatz. At Krasna, near Vaslui, our people spent the winter in railway trucks. Ninety per cent. of them died from cold, „and the remainder were reduced to skeletons who sought their death in order to shorten their lives as martyrs.“ And Ivan Ivanoff, from Tultcha, with tears in his eyes was thus relating his story to us.

At Deleni the population as well as the soldiers were very badly disposed towards us, so much so that some of our men even died at their hands. Such is the case with the 70-year-old Yanko Patchoff from Tultcha, who died being hit on the head by a Roumanian villager, who was immediately released by the military persecuting attorney with the words:

„It's nothing! One Bulgarian the less.“

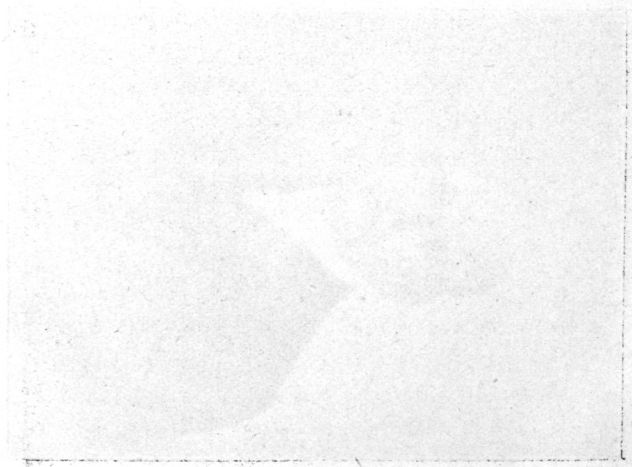
The commandant at Podoleni was Lieut. Frangopoulo, from Constanza, who lost no opportunity to curse and



Yanko K. Patchoff, a photograph eight months before carrying him off into Moldova.



Yanko K. Patchoff, a photograph taken two months before he was killed by the Roumanians in the village Deleni, Moldova





abuse the Bulgarians. He would not leave them at peace even in their sufferings, but would call them to him one by one in order to abuse them.

At Saveni the prisoners from Silistra endured much suffering. They were often beaten without cause and were obliged to work two or three days without food. Many had died from hunger and privation.

A Servian officer, who happened to be here, threw a bomb in a crowd of women and children, just to show off that he was a hero. Instead of protection on the part of the soldiers, the prisoners received only laughter and more beating.

The 7000 villagers in Galatz, among whom cholera appeared, were being surrounded by a strong military guard, but no other measures were taken for combatting the epidemy. To complete this picture of devastation the survivors were transported by rail to Iassy. Would you like to travel with us with the train and to have an idea of how „cultured“ Roumania is treating her prisoners? One premonition, however: you must be hard-hearted, otherwise you could not stand the sight.

Let us see. In the truck are crowded 90 men, women and children. One mother is pulling her hairs over her four children who are dead. What is the matter with her? She is paling at first, then she gets black in the face and falls down dead over the corpses of her children. The darkness does not allow us to see what takes place in that corner yonder. Cries and groans! Big, strong men die in convulsions. They bite the boards with their teeth, because of hunger and pains, then turning their heads aside they die in convulsions, with eyes wide open, as though they had wished to address a curse to their tyrants.

It is impossible to travel with these wagons because of the awful smell of putrifying corpses. No one is allowed

to leave these wagons. Anyone disobeying this order is killed. These wagons are the graves of the living and the dead, a moving infection, spreading out stench and disease.

Anybody attempting to bury the dead (and their number were between 200—300 for the whole train) was being shot down because the prisoners were numbered and the list had to be complete. What exactitude! The arrival and the debarkation was another trial. Those that survived the disease, being on the verge of insanity due to hunger and privation, were obliged to pick up the dead, to dig the graves and to bury their own relatives and compatriots, whose only crime had been that they call themselves Bulgarians. For those that survived there was a new era of suffering. They were put up at the prisoners' camp of Dangenî, 200 men in a barrack half sunk in the ground. Spotted fever and other diseases are thinning their ranks at the rate of 50—60 per day, so that by August, 1917, not more than 600 were left out of the whole number of 6000.

At Patrikani were assembled all the Bulgarian priests who were scattered among the other prisoners' camps. Every one of them is dead.

At that same village were interned 28 Roumanian officers, Bulgarians by nationality, who were arrogantly treated as though they have been the cause of the Roumanian catastrophe.

The abducted people from Kalipetrovo and Almalii were divided into two camps, one of them being at Hănesti, department of Dorohoi, numbering 1900 prisoners. Fully 750 of them are dead till now. Eight families, numbering 60 members, are completely extinct. Many children are left orphans and are being adopted by other parents.

The story of Mihail Krusteff is strong enough, but here is one that has no equal in the annals of atrocities.



Bulgarians from the village of Sreberna butchered by Roumanian troops.



A victim of Roumanian atrocities. At the village of Sreberna, near Silistra.



More than 2000 people were imprisoned in the barracks at Kalarash whose only food was 200 grams of corn flour every 2 or 3 days. With insufficient clothing, perfectly dirty, without bedclothes, they soon lost all human likeness. All their prayers for alleviation of their sufferings were met by beating and shooting. Men were being killed upon the least provocation. The Roumanian military authorities went so far as to kill children in front of their parents and wives in front of their husbands. Any attempt at self-defence was followed by a martyr's death. These scenes have their parallel only in the excesses of Nero. The Roumanians exceeded even him.

They made 200 men dig their own graves and then enter into them, after which they were killed by the soldiers. Some of them were even ordered to kill each other.

Any protest, the slightest movement, has been the cause for new torture. We have before us Nikola Tchakoff and Anghel Braikoff from Usul-Keui, near Silistra, who escaped being killed by feigning death and managed to escape, but later they were recaptured near Galatz and sent to the concentration camps. These two men relate tortures, to which they have been subjected, with tears in their eyes. They are almost demented as a result of these sufferings. Even while they talk they stretch their hands as though to save themselves from approaching danger.

Have the Roumanians stopped there with their atrocities? No. They kept the work of extermination while the unfortunate prisoners were on the march, and also while they were in the camps.

A party of them on the way to Dangenii were put behind several wild stallions, who continually kicked the men who were forced to walk behind them. Those hit had to remain where they were. Any one that volunteered to



come to his assistance was tied to the tail of two stallions and was torn to pieces.

The Roumanians never lost the opportunity to violate our women. Near the sugar factory of Ripiceni was a prisoners' camp with many women, whose husbands were away in the army. The commandant, wishing to verify certain papers, forcibly undressed few women with the assistance of his soldiers. Some of them gave money in order to escape that ordeal, others gave their jewelry, all of which was willingly accepted by the commandant.

While sending a convoy of men from one camp to another, those that could not walk fast enough were killed, by order of the commandant. There are cases where the poor wretches were ordered to take ten kilometers in fifty minutes; those that fell were killed. Out of a total of 600 only 60 reached their destination.

Another criminal act was their treatment of the Bulgarian physicians, who were also sent to the prisoners' camps. Dr. Gabrovski, from Silistra, and Dr. Hadjioglu, from Dobritch, died with spotted fever while combatting the epidemy in the vicinity of Hush. When a Roumanian physician was summoned to attend to them some one had said: —

„Two barbarians the less! Let them die!“

The Bulgarian physicians barbarians!

Money and letters sent through the Roumanian Red Cross have not been distributed until now. Letters written by prisoners were regularly destroyed.

Owing to the bad treatment by the commandant and the authorities in general, many of the prisoners, risking their lives, are organizing themselves for flight, but heretofore very few have managed to cross the Prut. They prefer to face death in order to be freed from oppression.

## II.

**Peter Kirtcheff, 26 years, native of Dobritch, escaped from exile in Moldova, on the 8 of February 1918 arrived in Sofia in very bad health, described to us his life of a martyr, and also that of his countrymen.**

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of August I was hurriedly taken to the police station, the agent telling me that the prefect has called for me. I found myself in a prison cell. My father, mother, two brothers and a sister with a 3-year-old boy were already there. That same evening 140 persons from Dobritch were arrested and we were all taken in open railway trucks to the School of Agriculture. The officials of the secret police, headed by their director, were abusing us and threw stones at us. After remaining there two days the director of the police came to us with a black list of 50 who were put aside, the rest of them were set at liberty after receiving a goodly sum from most of them. Mr. Bliznakoff, from Baltchik, got off with 13000 levas, getting in return a receipt that he had given that sum in payment for five carloads of grain.

All of us had arrived there without spare clothes, in spite of our prayers to provide ourselves with them, for we were told that we had no need of them: within three days we will either be back to our homes or we will be shot as spies. We could get nothing to eat, for they would allow no one to come near us. After that we were taken by rail to Markoleshti, department of Ialomitza. Here we

remained ten days, beaten, abused and ill treated by officials and the populace. The least movement or attempt at self-preservation was followed by renewed beatings, leaving wounds and bruises that remained for weeks.

By forced marches, in front of the guards' horses, we were taken to Faurei Station. Only those who were strong physically managed to get there, the weaker ones, after falling, were being robbed of everything they had and the looters divided the money and the clothes. Old men, 70 and 80 years of age, enfeebled from privations, hunger and beating, were forced to run together with the horses. Woe to them who could not keep up with the pace and fell down! The knife of the policeman settled everything.

We reached the station the 9<sup>th</sup> of September. Here we found 15000 people abducted from the departments of Silistra and Dobritch, among them the villagers from Kalipetrovo and Almalii, who had been brought here women, children and all. The picture of misery and devastation was complete. The tortures of hell are inferior to what was enacted before our eyes. The atrocities of Kaligula and Nero, those of the Greek Emperor Basil II, and the butchery of the bashibozouks of Batak and Perushtitsa were excelled by far. Mothers crying over the corpses of their dead children, or dying from wounds inflicted by the Roumanians. Here an old man of 100 years from Kalipetrovo, together with his wife of the same age, surrounded by his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, with tears in their eyes were watching how one of their granddaughters was giving birth to a child in the open field, in the mud, with no one to help her, for any one who would volunteer that service would be beaten to death. But the endurance of the Bulgarian woman asserted itself even on this occasion, for this young mother together

with her child, in an open railway truck the following day was on the way to her destination in company with the rest.

Here the treachery of the Roumanian authorities exceeded all expectations. All these villagers had arrived here with their horses and carts laden with foodstuffs and clothes, but one may imagine their consternation when they were told that each one could take only 20 kilogrammes of baggage. This was done only for the purpose of looting. When the villagers selected from the lot that which was absolutely necessary, the rest of the goods were soon taken over by their new possessors — the Roumanians — and in that strife for looting the whole field was covered with a thick layer of flour. Hundreds of wagons filled with all sorts of things: flour, grain, blankets, pillows, underclothing, children's clothes, furniture, etc., were on the way to the neighbouring villages.

Here the women were striving to rescue some more things from their baggage, to insure their children against cold and hunger, but they could not succeed, for the pillagers pulled down even the hoods of the women, the clothes of the little ones, even the slabbering-bibs and babies' stockings. Children 6—7 years of age, grasping their younger brothers or sisters, hung on to the petticoats of their mothers, until they were barbarously killed in order to put a stop to their cries and lamentations. The people from Tutrakan were also brought here and were being mercilessly beaten with sticks. The cries and groans, together with the shrieking of the wind, reminded one of hell on earth.

The 17 priests that were there were subjected to unheard-of tortures. They pulled their beards, cut their hairs and shaved their heads. Their clothes were torn, and, left only with their underclothing, they were compelled to say



prayers for the salvation of the souls of the brigands. The priest Gregor became insane because of the beating.

While we were on the train we had to pay for any little service rendered by the guard. The younger of us were put in closed trucks, 60—65 in a wagon, where we had scarcely enough room for standing. No one could sit down and rest himself, and all had the need of rest, for the torture and exhaustion had lowered our physical resistance. We were almost suffocated for lack of air in those closed wagons. In answer to our cries and prayers to open the window for some fresh air they mocked and beat us. There were a few more kind-hearted ones among them who would allow a window opened after they were given 400—500 francs, but as soon as some one would venture to put his head out he was promptly shot. We suffered not only from suffocation but from thirst as well. All empty vessels were carried off in order to extort money from us. We were obliged to pay anywhere from 100 to 200 levas for a glass of water to quench our thirst, otherwise the dried tongue would stick to the palate and the dried blood would glue our lips.

The wagons were filled with dung besides the addition of human excrements, so that it soon became a moving water-closet. The exhaling odour was the cause of many diseases among us followed by deaths, but the Roumanians would allow none of the corpses to be thrown out of the wagon, so that the air became worse as the result of the decomposition of dead bodies.

A new method was being employed for the extermination of the Bulgarians: while the train was in motion the soldiers, ordered by their superiors, would push some one out of the wagon and then would shoot him down as though he had tried to escape.

Several young men were thus killed, forever escaping the abuses and tortures of those who survived.



Women and children were also put in open trucks, without any protection from the cold which benumbed their limbs. Naked, bare-footed, hungry, they would keep close one to the other and would hug their children to keep them warm, and then perchance the little one would stop crying and the mother would find, to her despair, that the child is dead. Then cries and groans would come even as far as our wagon and would drive us mad; but what could we do? We, strong and fearless Bulgarians, what could we undertake? We were caged in like wild beasts, surrounded by a strong guard, exhausted from hunger and privation. Had we had our liberty the heroes of Tutrakan would have paid dearly for their tyranical treatment of unprotected women and children.

We debarked at Ungureni Station, and thence by foot, beaten and maltreated, tied together in a long file, we reached Shtubieni.

Populace, soldiers, officials, all turned out to see the Bulgarians who were reported to eat human flesh, and the crowd threw stones at us. We were looked upon as chained beasts on exhibition for the amusement of children.

An innocent boy of 8 years was killed brutally. The mother rushed to protect her offspring, but they started to beat her and to push her off, and would not allow her to give him her last kiss, though he was only two feet away from her.

After our arrival in the village the men were put apart and installed in a big stable, while the women and the children were left in the street. The weather was cold, and most of the women had only their underclothes, for the Roumanian women had taken their petticoats and even their headdresses together with tufts of hair. We stayed here eleven days without food, except what we

could buy at fabulous prices. For one-quarter of a loaf of bread 500—600 levas had been paid. The soldiers used to bring us water from a pool at 10 levas the bottle. We slept on the bare ground with no cover. Quite a number died here and were thrown out in the field naked, where they were devoured by dogs. It was not an uncommon sight to see a naked woman dead in the field, whose cadaver was not left unmolested even there, but abused and profaned. Having intercourse with a dead woman is a crime which only a low-cultured Roumanian could commit. The savages of the African deserts would be more compassionate, especially to the dead, whose spirit has left the body and might report to the gods their licentiousness.

Twelve days after that we were taken to Kotsiushka, department of Dorohoi, near the river Prut. The journey was by foot, accompanied by the usual tortures and sufferings.

The commandant of our camp, Captani Zaharia, told us the same evening that we will soon be shot, for we have been accused of treason and espionage. We were assembled together with our small packs, and all the money and valuables were taken away, giving us in return unofficial receipts. Fully 150,000 levas thus collected have not been refunded up to this date. We spent here a whole year, cleaning the streets, the stables and even the closets of the villagers, cutting wood, cleaning soldiers' shoes and sandals, etc. Good many of our companions died here because of hunger, privation and disease, among them being Kosta Uzunoff from Kavarna. Great many more women and children died from disease, with no measures whatever being taken by the medical authorities, their answer always being:

„Let them die! There will be less Bulgarians left!“

Occasionally written orders were being read to us publicly, accompanied by typical Roumanian curses. The orders were to the effect that we had no right to assemble even two together, and that while we are at work we should not talk. It was forbidden to buy food or clothes from the villagers, nor were the villagers allowed to sell us these articles. Reading of books or newspapers was not allowed, even in the Roumanian language. Should anyone be found with a book or a newspaper, even the piece of one, he should be shot.

For all these transgressions the punishment was the same: shooting, without formalities of judgment, by whosoever may be — soldier, officer, official, or the meanest of a Roumanian peasant.

One of the inspectors of the prisoners' camps, Ali-maneshteanu by name, addressed us with these words: „You should work without complaint. You should not turn the mind of our ignorant people, for the only way to make you inoffensive is by shooting you, and you have seen what we are able to do. For many ages to come the Bulgarian will tremble from our very name.“

In<sup>2</sup>May, 1917, we were moved to Bivoli Mari, without women and children, who were left to die in the low huts of Kotsushka, helpless to secure food and clothing or to protect themselves from the dachauched Roumanian soldiers. These unfortunate victims passed the whole winter in these low huts, 150 meters long, covered with loosely-nailed boards that would come apart when the north wind is blowing and would make the place too cold for a human habitation. There is only one entrance and an exit, with no windows. If it were not for the cracks between the boards it would be too dark inside. The flooring is dug 30 centimeters below the ground, so that after the autumn rains the water freezes and the ice remains for six months.

All children were dead, and the women that survived that winter did so with frozen feet. It was a terrible sight to see these women with feet as black as coal, the flesh falling off and the bones protruding.

The prophesy of Captain Zaharia had to be fulfilled, that the Bulgar seed should be destroyed within a year, such being the wish of king, government and of the Roumanian people as well.

The winter wind played havoc in these cabins, which answered not only the purpose of a house and a prison, but also a water-closet and a grave. No woman or child could go out without being beaten or cynically abused by the soldiers or the populace. The women of Moldova took part one day in seducing a village girl, who could not stand her disgrace and committed suicide, while the spoliators kept dancing around her and offended the last moments of her life with their debauchery.

At Bivoli Mari, notwithstanding the steps taken by the Bulgarian government, there was no alleviation of our sufferings, nay, we were treated even worse. For this very reason we made our plans of escape. Many of us managed to cross over into Russia, but those that are left in Moldova will have to wait until our government takes the necessary steps for their deliverance.

The Bulgarian priest from Galatz tells of the tortures and sufferings of those sent to the northern regions of Moldova, where more than 13,000 persons have perished. He also cites one more instance of the intentions of the Roumanian authorities, namely: the prisoners in the camp of Ripitcheni prayed their commandant, Lieutenant Popescu, to see that their condition be ameliorated, whereupon he answered: „The more Bulgarians dead the more medals will I receive.“

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### III.

**Temelkoff Ivan Ilinkoff, late mayor of the village of Sarjilar, Tutrakan county, Dimitter Pavloff and Gheorgi Krusteff, from Antimovo, Tutrakan county, described to us with tears in their eyes life in the prison camps.**

All summer long the women from Kalipetrovo and Aidemir, interned in the prison camp at Radautz, department of Dorohoi, were forcibly sent to work on some of the big farms in the neighborhood. As a recompense for their labour they got nothing else but a certain quantity of badly-cooked corn gruel twice a day. Whenever they dared ask for something else, for they were too hungry and exhausted, they received slashes and beating, very often by the proprietor himself.

The roll-call and the way they were despatched to work is worth description. Before the break of day they were rudely awakened by the gendarmes, who opened the doors of the sheds and brought out the women for the roll-call. They were arranged two by two in a military fashion and everybody's name was called. After they had hurriedly taken their breakfast they were despatched double file to the field where they had to work incessantly all day. At the close of the day they would all come double file to the farm. Then supper was served, again the roll was



called, after which they were shut up in the sheds and guarded all night by sentinels. They were crowded so closely together that there was scarcely room for lying down, so that they were compelled to sit all night, nodding their heads and cursing the day when they were born.

The roll-call, distribution of food, the arrangement in double file, all these things were accompanied by beating and endless cursing. The men were working in another district on the railway line Roman — Butcheshti, which was then in the course of construction, without receiving anything more than 200 grams of corn gruel per day. If for any reason whatsoever the work allotted was not accomplished the guilty one was surely beaten. For any words exchanged between two workers the guilty ones received 25 stripes. All of them were covered with bruises.

All the girls from Almalii, Silistra district, were separated from their parents and were sent to work on the farm.

It was very touching to see the separation of these unfortunate girls when they learned what is in store for them. Mothers and fathers hugged their dear ones, crying bitterly, imploring God's help and bemoaning their fate. All were crying like children. In vain were the prayers of fathers and mothers to have few elderly people sent to accompany the young ones. All their prayers were answered by brutality, beating and abuses. It was a heart-rending scene. Here a mother is hugging her daughter, wishing to keep her there forever, there the daughter is tightly holding the knees of her father expecting his protection, or else she is mercilessly being pulled away by the policeman while she is holding tight to the clothes of her mother. Cries and moans which remind one of a stormy sea ready to submerge the world! But there was no one to answer their appeals for help.



Bulgarians from Dobroudja just arrived from exile at Braila.



They are all from the village of Almalii, on their way home.

A pair of them, an old woman with her daughter, remained thus interlaced one with the other in spite of the policeman's command to part company. Since they remained in that position while the party was starting off, the commander of the convoy ordered them to be shot. (The husband was dead a month since.) Could there be a better ending of one's life? The mother did not wish to see her child separated from her. She realized the fact that, once her daughter had fallen in the hands of those debauched brigands, she would either come back as bad as a fallen woman, or she will never come back at all. She wanted to see her dead first and then die herself, rather than a life in disgrace.

At Merkani, district of Dorohoi, among the women prisoners there was one from Kalipetrovo with three children. Every day these three innocent children would play in the public square close to their dwelling. The chief of the gendarmes, passing one day through the square, chased them brutally away from there, whipping them and striking them with the butt-end of the rifle. Next day the children were again on the square, but as soon as they saw the arrival of the gendarme they left for their home.

It appears, however, that the third day the gendarme had followed their movements in advance, and as soon as they were out he was close to them unawares and started to strike them with the butt-end of the rifle. When they were put to flight he sent bullets after them. Not content with that, he chased them as far as their house and beat them as well as a Roumanian gendarme would know how.

In the course of two weeks everyone of these three children died from fright. And the mother was left alone far from home, and for many a day after that she would be seen bemoaning her fate over the three newly-dug graves.

Upon their arrival at Ungureni, near Dorohoi, all the prisoners from Tutrakan and Silistra, heretofore interned in Ialomitza, were being distributed in groups of 1000 to 1500 and sent into the surrounding towns and villages.

One of these groups, composed of about 1000 men, took the road for the prisoners' camp at the town of Saveni. Several kilometers away from the village the soldiers stationed themselves on either side of the road so that the prisoners had to pass between them. The soldiers armed themselves, besides rifles, with sticks and stones, and while the prisoners were passing close to them they let no one go without being hit. Good many women and children, as well as older folks, tried to escape this ordeal and started to run in the open field. This was considered as desertion, and the commandant ordered his men to open fire. The result was that 128 prisoners were left dead on the field and great many more wounded.

Then the convoy was again put together and took the road for Saveni, with the threat that if anyone would lag behind or would not keep in the road the „punishment“ will be repeated.

Before entering town the commandant sent two soldiers ahead to have the church bell rung and to call out the town people to see how Bulgarian prisoners are being killed. Hearing of this, the sous-prefect left the town and was soon close to the prisoners. He went directly to the commandant and asked him why he had ordered the ringing of the church bell. The officer said that all these people are Bulgarians and that he has an order from the War Ministry to have them all killed. The sous-prefect required a written order from the War Minister but the officer replied that he had an oral order. It was immediately understood that this was an arbitrary act on the part of the officer, and he was promptly arrested by the local police.



This is how the prisoners escaped sure death, thanks to the timely intervention of the sous-prefect, who, by the way, was not a Roumanian. And during the whole time of our exile this was the only instance when some one intervened on our behalf.

At the station Munteni, near Buzeu, on several occasions the population and soldiers attacked the prisoners and even killed a few. Quite a number of Bulgarians found their graves here.

Many an hour they have laid prostrate on the ground close to the station, to prevent them from seeing the panic flight of the Roumanian troops. Here the maddened Roumanians made the Turks and Bulgarians kneel down and offer a prayer to the „Roumanian god.“ They ordered the Turks to cross themselves. „You may do whatever you please with us, you may kill us, but we can never do that, we will never make the sign of the cross,“ they all cried, men and hodjas and women with naked and bare-footed children in their arms.

Here they profaned them, by forcing them to eat pork mixed with human excreta.

Most of them were Turkish and Bulgarian families from the villages, Daider, Denizler, Hadji Olar, Sarsunlar and Bulgarski Kosouy, Tutrakan county.

Mirtcho Petkoff, Petko Gogleff from B. Kosouy and many other sick men in the hospital at Radautz, put an end to their lives by suicide, after suffering hunger and privations. Majority of the sick died from hunger, for they were locked and left there by themselves, with no one to take care of them. For days at a time there was no bread, nor was there anyone to serve them with water.

The son of the priest Pouleff, from Almalii, was mobilized in the Roumanian army as a cavalryman. Immediately after the Tutrakan catastrophe, in company with

all officers and soldiers from Bulgarian origin, he was interned in the camp of Stefanesti, near Botoshani, and was held under a special regime of persecution. The whole winter they worked on the neighboring farms without pay. They endured great suffering while they carried ice from the river Prut to the camp, a distance of 5 kilometers. By order of the commandant the ice had to be carried on the head, supported by hand, so that the cold water would trickle down the body. The punishment for not fulfilling this order was 25 stripes. On the road they were being pillaged by the guard, who would take from them their only pair of sandals. All day long they would walk in the snow, naked and bare-footed, and at night they would retire to their huts, but even here they were not left at peace. Often at night they would sound the alarm and would call the roll, then a regular Bartholomew's night would be enacted. Cries and groans, mingled with blows and abuses, would fill the sheds and their surroundings. It was enough to make one's hair stand on end if perchance one was found there at the time.

After certain time Mr. Pouleff learned of the sufferings of his son, and in order to save him made arrangements with the commandant for the removal of his son to Radautz.

He was brought to the village lying in a carriage, half dead, his feet swollen, his face pale and his eyes hollowed.

In the large sheds constructed that same winter anywhere between one to two thousand souls were installed. Not less than 50 to 60 died every day. „One morning when I awoke,“ tells the old man Temelkoff from Surdji-lar, „thirty on one side of the aisle and as many more on the other were in a state of agony, and almost as many

had died during the night. As many as eight families from Almalii were thus exterminated, not a single member of these large families being left."

"And how many more terrible and never to be forgotten scenes I have witnessed" says in conclusion Mr. Temelkoff, and a sob renders him speechless.



#### IV.

**Stoyan Moroff, 18 years, student in 8<sup>th</sup> Class Silistra Gymnasium, born at Babadag, escaped from Moldova the latter part of December, arrived in Sofia January 8, 1918, related to us the following story about the sufferings of our people in Moldova.**

At last, after sixteen months of exile, after many tortures and privations, my companions in suffering as well as myself are returning one by one to our native land.

How many of us went there, and how many will return! Twenty-five thousand of us were sent into exile, but it is doubtful if ten thousand will return safe and sound. The dear ones are eagerly expected, mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters, but alas! many of them will not come back, great many had remained forever in the deserts of Moldova, converted by the Roumanians into a cemetery.

Arrested in a brutal manner on August 28, 1916, with a crowd of men, women and children from Babadag, as a dangerous man, I was led to Tultcha, cast in prison like a low criminal and finally interned in the camp Podoleni, district Faltchiu. Until the last day I shared with my countrymen from Tultcha and Silistra all the tortures and atrocities of Roumanian misgovernment.

But we were not alone. We found there many other old men, women and children from long-oppressed Dobroudja who had known Roumanian tyranny, but who did not know Roumanian atrocities, exceeding even the most fantastic idea of hell.

September 6, when Bulgarian troops entered into southern Dobroudja, we were led by boat to a safer place, namely Galatz.

Under a heavy escort we were led through the principal streets of the town, so that the people might see the civil „prisoners“ taken at the glorious battle of Tutrakan. In fact we were only citizens of Toultscha, Babadag and Constantza, Roumanian subjects, women with small children in their arms, old, infirm people! While passing through the streets they addressed us with many bad epithets and maledictions. They threw at us from the windows different things: stones, glasses, sticks etc. They all inquired if we were the Bulgarians who ate human flesh.

This was the feeling that the Roumanians had for us after the catastrophe of Tutrakan.

In the barracks at Galatz we met the long-oppressed „prisoners“ from Silistra, our future companions. They had been subjected to atrocious sufferings in the Kalarash barracks, where all their money and valuables were stolen. For many hours at a time they had laid flat on the ground, all of them, ready to be shot, for the soldiers expected the order every minute.

On the road from Kalarash to Galatz they came very nearly being lynched by the retreating mob of soldiers and civilians, who were waiting for the least pretext to bounce upon them, killing and despoiling them of everything they had.

After four months of prison life in Galatz we managed to purchase our liberty with large sums of money.



But it was not for long. At the expiration of three weeks we were again arrested and taken to the interior of Moldova. With scarcely any food, and with no means for our support and no possibility to secure food from outside, death stared us in the face, the only relief from our future sufferings and privations. We were Bulgarians and we could not reconcile ourselves to meanness and tyranny.

How many of our companions died in misery and privations! They are many, great many. And how badly they felt, even at the last hour, that they are dying in a strange land, far from their parents and relations, far from their fair Dobroudja already freed! But the dear ones in the land of freedom were so far away from them that they could not tell them their last farewell. They could not. Cruel fate! Their last secret, their last greeting they are sending through us, the survivors of that heavy ordeal.

Our situation was terrible, especially since the commandant was greedy for money, and in order to enrich himself rapidly he would strip the innocent victims in the camp. Few were the men who had not been beaten by him or who had not been victims of his avarice. We had for a commandant a fanatic who maltreated us terribly, our countrymen being a special object of persecution.

The situation was even worse in the camps round about us. This was specially true for the camps where the people of Tutrakan county were interned (Staro-Selo, B. Kosouy, Daider, Demisler, Surmilar, Belitza, Antimovo Deli Isuflar, etc.), from the district of Silistra (Kalipetrovo, Almalii, Babouk, Kotchina, Sreberna, Alfatlar, Kainardja etc.), and also from the Dobritch district.

These are sad recollections of a glorious past! This is the flower of our golden Dobroudja, the heroes of 1912—1913, who fought valiantly on the glorious battlefields for the fatherland! These are the invincible heroes of



Roumanian atrocities on innocent Bulgarians in the village of Sreberna, near Silistra.



A 78 years old man, killed most atrociously by the Roumanians.

Lule-Burgas, Bunar-Hisar, Karaagatch, Ovtchepole and Kresna. These are the liberators of our enslaved brothers. What fate! The men who would gladly give their lives for others were exposed to an ignominious death.

I wish to go on and speak, but I don't feel strong enough. To be sure, my martyrdom is over, but I feel too weak to go on with the narrative. I will speak again when we are farther removed from these awful scenes of which I had been a witness. Now I am free! This thought alone makes me forget everything around me, and I must seek for a time the needed rest for my body and soul. I am looking forward to a few quiet days, to rejoice at the sight of the Bulgarian sun and the merciful Bulgarian God.

Mihail Krusteff, Peter Kirtcheff and Stoyan Moroff, escaped recently from the exile camps of Moldova, communicate to us only the following names of persons who have died there from hunger and privation:

Pavel Dimitroff, Hassan Faku	}	Silistra District
George Velkoff, Ussul Keuy		
Osman Hodja		
Ahmed Hodja		
Dragan Georgieff, Tcharaktchi		
Todor Kirimoff	"	

Babadag: —

Kout Mehmed Shaban	}	Camp Stefaneshiti
Moustapha M. Daout		
Hodja Moura Sherif		
Stefan Palantcheff		

The wife of St. Radousheff, from Hadjilar, district of Toultscha. There are six more persons dead, natives of Hadjilar, whose names are unknown.

Silistra : —

Tatcho Naidenoff, Camp Mihalasheni

Jeliou Stoyanoff

Marin Jekoff

Vasil Kostoff

George . . .

Geno Sobadjieff

Vassil Rombashlaka

" "

Camp Movila Rupa, near the  
Ripiceni Sugar Factory

Doymushlar, Silistra District: —

Eniou Kiroff

Ivan Lakerdoff

Dimitër Moskov

Bazargian, Silistra District.

Stoyan Tsaneff

Veisal Kodja Selimoff

Ahmed H. Mahmoudoff

Maarem Rivazoff

Pomak Os. Suleimanoff

Molla Ahmedoff

Camp of

Petricani,

Department

of

Dangeni

Pamuktchilar, Silistra District: —

H. Osman Suleimanoff

Rashid K. Ismailoff

Sali H. Mahmoudoff

H. Afus Bosnalı





The burial of 48 Bulgarians killed in Sreberna by the Roumanians.



Bulgarians killed on their way to Karales near Silistra by Roumanian troops.

Tchamurli, Babadag County: —

Dimiter Andreeff Duhneff  
 Ivan Ivanoff Simeonoff  
 Peter K. Hineff, mayor  
 Diko Garouzoff  
 Peter Migneff  
 Baltcho Pop Blagoeff

Camp

Eski-Baba, Babadag County: —

Gantcho Kaleff Ganeff  
 Tanas Kaleff Ganeff  
 Panteleimon Dimoff  
 Nikolai Ivanoff  
 Velitchko Kaltcheff

Stephaneshti

Yanko Patchoff, from Tultcha, killed at Deleni.

Kertcho Marteff, Kassapkeuy, District of Constantza.

Draghia Velkoff, Kosta Peeff and Raitcho Gradinaroff,  
 all from Tultcha.

The wife of Gheorgieff and Dr. Gabrovski, both from  
 Silistra.

Dontcho Drumeff, from Babadag.

Ivan Komarasheff, from Tutrakan.

Dr. Hadjioglu, from Dobritch.

Sava Mitkoff Bros., from Kainardja, Silistra District.

The priest Ch. Popoff, from Bretchma, and the priest  
 from Tcherkovna, Silistra District.

Ivan Angheloff from Alfatlari, Silistra District, gives  
 the following names of Dobroudjans killed in Moldova by  
 the Roumanians: —

1. Gantcho Dobreff
2. Dobri Ilkoff
3. Ivan Vurbanoff

} Residence unknown.

4. Peter ———, from Nadejda, department of Dobritch, killed December, 1916, for the sum of 100 levas.

5. Kosta Atanassoff from Kossouy, Tutrakan County.

6. Drumi Petroff, from Dobritch, killed at Hursovo at the outset.

7. Kosta Bakaloff, residence unknown, killed at Mihailshiti, department of Botoshani.





Exiled children from Dobroudja waiting at Braila their turn to go back home.





On their way home. On board, a steamer on the Danube.

# PERSONAL TESTIMONIES

COLLECTED BY

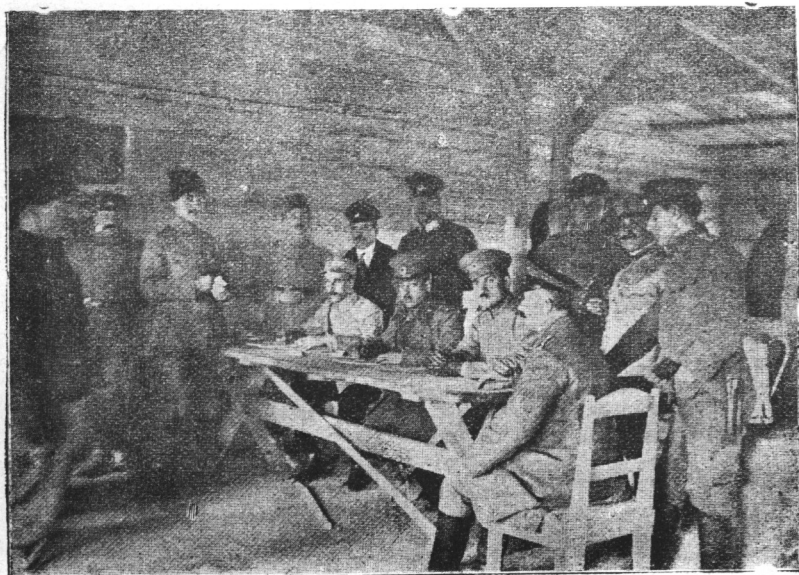
PETER TODOROFF

AT THE VERY SPOT WHERE ABDUCTED DOBROUDJANS  
WERE BROUGHT BACK.





In front of the Bulgarian hospital at Braila. Liberated exiles waiting for their bread.



Commission of control at the village of Boldovineshti, close to Braila, waiting for the exiles set free.



Roumanian atrocities at the village of Sreberna.



Roumanian atrocities at the village of Sreberna.



We received information from the Roumanian Commission that the home-coming of the exiled Dobroudjans would commence Feb 5, 8.30 in the morning. At 8 o'clock the commission was on its way, five kilometers beyond Vudeni. A wooden barrack was specially built for the purpose, heated with stoves. The electrical installation is not quite complete. Presently a detachment of Bulgarian soldiers arrives, under the command of Lieut. X., a field kitchen for the preparation of hot tea, and seven big transport motor-cars. German and Bulgarian physicians are already at their posts, making final arrangements.

The wooden barrack is built on the very summit commanding the valley of the Siret. Before our eyes is a low plain dug out in trenches and covered with barbed wire, and further on is seen the dead space with traces of destruction inevitable in war time. The armistice gives it a peculiar aspect: here and there you would see soldiers going freely about, while heretofore they were leading the life of a mole. Deadly silence reigns everywhere. At one place alone a group of soldiers were having a drill, dragging with them their faithful companion, the machine-gun. In modern warfare the machine-gun is the soldiers' harmonious music: it cheers him up when he has it alongside of him, and it scares him when it is pitched against him. Way out in the distance is the railway line Braila — Galatz, but at present you don't hear the shrieking noise of the locomotive whistle, for there are no trains running.

Three members of our commission went ahead in a carriage to make certain arrangements with their colleagues

on the Roumanian side. After two hours they came back and informed us that the transports will soon arrive at the line of demarkation. Within half an hour a motor-car arrived bringing the Roumanian delegates headed by Captain Tabakovitch, with whom the final details were arranged.

One of the soldiers cried out: „Here they come!“ and we all left the barrack, fixing our eyes on the road. The noise of the German motor-cars reached our ears. Here is the first transport. The cars are filled with villagers, most of them women and children. Here and there were men, most of them old. The weather being cold we all hurried with their debarkation. It is a touching scene. Weak women, feeble children and old men are landing from the big motor-cars. Old women would cross themselves and would greet us, saying: „God be praised! We were able again to step on our native soil and see again Bulgarian soldiers.“ Dear old souls! They thought that this is our territory, as long as the foot of our soldier has once stepped there. Our companions in arms, Germans and Austrians, are watching with great interest this sad procession of exiles. One could deduct from their looks that they were deeply indignant at this outcome of Roumanian atrocities. Looking at these unfortunate people one would unwillingly ask himself what were the supreme interests of state which induced Roumania to exile so many innocent women and children, the majority of them leaving forever their husbands, fathers, brothers and sisters, in faraway inhospitable Moldova? Did the Roumanians believe that the salvation of their country lay in the misfortune of the tens of thousands exiled Dobroudjans? I could not help but think of the popular proverb: When God wishes to punish someone he deprives him of reason.

The arrivals are rapidly installed in the warm barrack where tea is served. On the face of these wretched people you could read, besides giddiness, also a sense of satisfaction. And how could they help being in a trance, after surviving so many experiences? The children were especially happy: they would like to hear and to see everything that is Bulgarian. The youngest ones were surprised when they heard the soldiers talking to them in their mothers' tongue. For the first time in their lives they see Bulgarian soldiers. The review of the list commences. Even nurslings were put on the list. This formality over, the people were placed in carriages supplied by the Austro-Hungarian authorities and started for the gymnasium at Braila, which had been assigned for their temporary dwelling until they were disinfected and despatched to Bulgaria.

With one of the motor-cars I started for the line of demarkation. The exchange took place before the foremost trenches, where they were brought in well-covered Roumanian cars, and after going by foot 300—400 meters they were put up in German motor-cars. Here new set of sensations. The German soldiers of the first line performed their charitable duties with a special zeal.

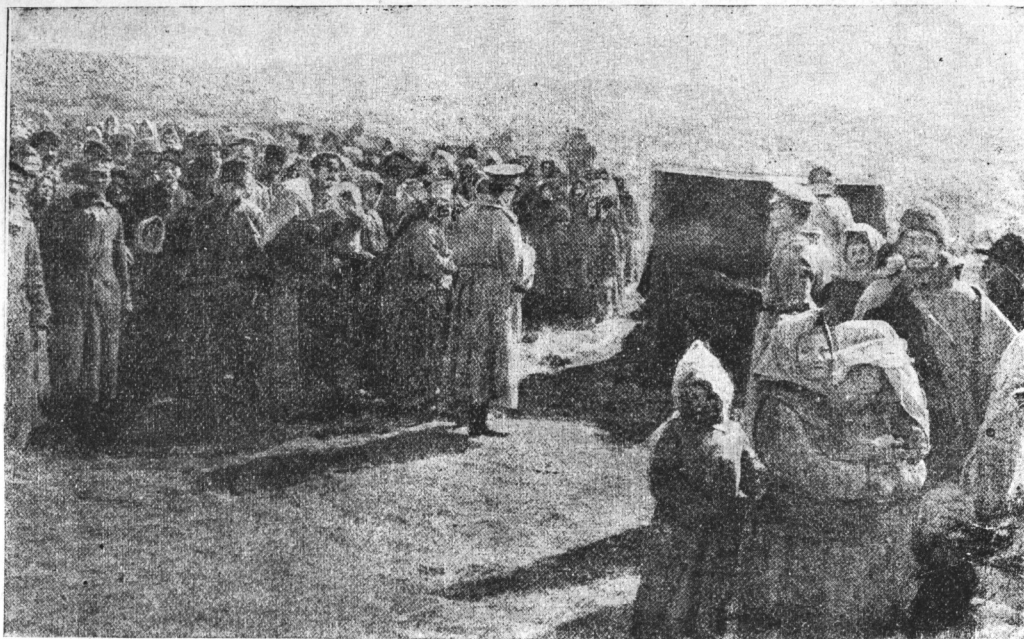
Everybody was anxious to help the unfortunate people. I was much impressed to see several German soldiers carrying on their arms a sick woman and several weak children. An old man was carrying on his back, all the distance between one car and the other, his faithful wife, down with rheumatism for the last three months. Some of the new arrivals were rather surprised when they heard me talk their language. Many of them exclaimed: „Why, he is a Bulgarian; he is not a Dutchman!“

By 7 o'clock that night the first group of 789 persons was handed over. They are all from Silistra county, mostly

from Aidemir and Kara-Omour. They had been interned at the camp of Vlassineshti, department of Dorohoi.

At camp Vlassineshti there had been at first 800 people from Aidemir and 900 from Kara-Omour; subsequently, however, about 590 of them had been distributed among other camps. They had been miserably treated up till last summer: the bread had been insufficiently baked, made out of spoiled flour and mixed up with straw and sand. It was simply impossible to eat it. The barracks were very humid. Many of the inmates had asked to leave the barracks and go to the neighboring village and engage quarters there, but this was not to be allowed because the officials had to justify in some way the expenses made for construction of the barracks. Children under seven were given half ration. With tears in their eyes they all complained of the merciless beating they received at the hands of the Roumanian gendarmes, who did not spare neither children nor women. They had sought every occasion to beat the unfortunate ones. This was done even in the presence of the commandant. Woe to him, for example, who did not present himself on time for the roll-call.

Talking about beating, I am reminded of a very characteristic incident related to me. Few days before the transportation of the exiles they were being lined up in the field to be inspected by the commission of delivery presided over by a senator from Bucarest. The order was given to put all women on one side, all children up to 17 in another group and men above 46 in a third group. For a time things did not move smoothly and some disorder was the result, whereupon the president began to use insulting language and ordered the gendarmes to make use of the club. And those who related this fact to me, added: „As long as a senator does that, you may



The Bulgarian reception committee near Braila waiting for the return of exiled Dobroudjans.





Bulgarian priests and others waiting at Braila for their turn to be taken to their homes.

imagine the conduct of a smaller official." The name of that senator is known by Ivan Ivanoff Gabrovalu, from Braila, who is now with the Bulgarians isolated in Bucarest. Beating, privation and humidity are the causes of the spread of spotted fever. Not a vestige even of medical assistance. The wretches were left to their fate. At camp Vlassineshti died 250 natives from Aidemir and 230 from Kara-Omour. A father who had eight children is coming back with only one. There are several groups of children who have lost both their fathers and mothers. Now they are returning to their native land complete orphans with a curse upon their lips for that government which had sought to save itself from merited ruin at the price of their sufferings and privations.

All exiles, women and children, were obliged to work on the farm. They were roughly treated while at work. Food was quite insufficient. The boyards of Roumania, who live in luxury and debauchery, paid them 55 centimes per day, and at times much less. Good many of them received nothing.

There are many stories of brutality and maltreatment even on the part of the boyards

A group of 96 young men from Aidemir and another group of 67 from Kara-Omour, all from camp Vlassineshti, were sent to the neighboring farms where nothing but beating and privation was in store for them.

The disinfection of the exiles commenced on the 6<sup>th</sup> inst., and to-day they are being put into barges. They will be taken to Silistra, where they will be submitted to 21 days' quarantine.

Yesterday I distributed among the poorest, especially widows and orphans, certain sums given for that purpose by the Dobroudja Society of Sofia. I take this opportunity to thank them for their timely gift.

The 6<sup>th</sup> instant the gymnasium was visited by the commander of the IV Division, General-Lieutenant Kisseloff, and the German Commandant of Braila. They could not conceal their indignation of this basely conduct of the Roumanians by abducting so many innocent women and children. Every day there is a crowd of curious Roumanians in front of the Gymnasium, contemplating this touching picture of the result of their cruelty. Most of them have probably taken part in the abuse of these victims when they were on their way to exile.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> inst., 6:30 p. m., a meeting was arranged between our delegates and those of Roumania, at the line of demarcation. The proposition of our delegates for the liberation of the second series was approved by the Roumanians. Discussion arose in regard to the order by districts. It was finally settled that the fourth group would take the place of the third. First, second and third groups will be handed over at the interval of five days, the rest of the groups every three days. The Roumanian delegates stated that the first group contains 800—900 souls, including several hundred Bulgarians from old Roumania.

With the second group there will be 1020 people handed over, 800 of whom are from the district of Silistra mostly from Kalipetrovo. With the third group there will be 1000 from Silistra and 300 from Constantza, with the fourth group 1000 from Constantza and 300 from Silistra. From Silistra there will be a total of 4000 to 5000 men handed over.

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On the 5<sup>th</sup> instant together with the first group that arrived from Moldova was a villager from Aidemir, Silistra district, by the name of

**Roussi Velikoff, age 50. He was one of the few living witnesses of the terrible tragedy enacted at Kalarash.**

With tears in his eyes he relates the following:—

On August 31, 1916, the Roumanian police authorities imposed upon our village the forced labor (corvée) of 92 men with horses and carriages, for the purpose of transporting grain over to Kalarash. After passing the Danube we unloaded our carts thinking we are going back home; instead, we were ordered to carry stones for the road that was in the course of construction along the river. We worked on the road four days, then for two days we carried ammunitions from Kalarash to Silistra. Next day our horses and carts were taken away, and we were removed to the willow park at the river side, where we found many other people from the villages around Silistra. The following morning a party of us were taken over to the station to unload ammunition, working all day long without food but plenty of beating. Then sixty of us were put aside and sent to take back our horses and carts. When we reached the barracks the soldiers met us as though we were enemies and started to beat us. We managed to hitch up our horses and started for the barracks of the 5<sup>th</sup> Artillery Regiment on the other side of the town. Upon our arrival there we were met by an espalier of Roumanian soldiers armed with pitchforks, piles and sticks. While passing between them we were all being beaten to their hearts' content. After putting up our horses and carts we were arranged double file, and a group of wounded soldiers passed between us headed by an officer. They started stripping us of whatever they needed: clothes, caps, belts,

everything for the wounded. After that we were ordered to lie on our bellies. The officer gave an order that whosoever would make a movement should be shot. That took place at the close of day. They started to beat us with the butt-end of their guns, and whoever would move would be promptly shot. No one dared lift his head, for we all knew what fate was in store for us. The whole night long the shooting continued together with the groans of the victims. We were fully 200 men there, for many of those left at the willow park joined us later on. The soldiers would step over us, would dance over us, likening us to the big bridge at Tcher-na-Voda. Not less than fifty of our number were shot that night. I remember distinctly it was the night of 8 or 9 September. At break of day the beating and shooting ceased and we were allowed to sit on the ground. That same day a party of us were sent to the station to load flour. The beating went on. The following night all that survived were placed inside the barracks. All day long on the 10<sup>th</sup> we carted straw and slept in our carts that night. The morning of the 11<sup>th</sup> we were submitted to more tortures: we were again commanded to lie on our bellies and whosoever would make a movement would be shot dead. Two young men lying not far away from me were shot where they were, in our presence. Until noon we were being watched thus, but when they observed that not one of us is moving they tried a stratagem. They would ask: „Who wishes to go to the water-closet?“ But whoever went there never came back. We felt that the bullet was expecting us there, especially since we were taken there singly. No one desired to go to the water-closet. Then they would ask: „Who wishes to go and get straw for his bed?“ But whoever went there never came back. Thus we spent the day until dark. The doors were locked that night and we were left in peace.





Bulgarian priests from Dobroudja abducted by the Roumanians.



Under doctor's supervision at Braila.



Bulgarians from Dobroudja. The nursing at the right end of the picture has been born in exile.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> September we were led in the corridor and stripped naked. We had to show all the money we had with us, which was all taken away from us without any receipt. Our better clothes were taken away from us.

We remained two weeks in the barracks, all the time engaged in cleaning the stable manure with our hands. They would give us neither shovels nor mattocks. We pulled up all the grass in the court with our hands.

It was Sunday. We were taken to the station, and each of us was given a loaf of bread. We were put in trucks assigned for horses and started for Moldova, where we arrived after four days. During the whole journey no other food was given. At Tchoulnitza station our truck was visited by a gendarme, who snatched the rifle from one of our guards and started to beat us indiscriminately, crying: „If I were charged with your transportation I would leave none of you alive.“ After that we reached the exile camps of Moldova, where new set of sufferings were in store for us.

It was only by miracle that we were left alive at Kalarash. I do not think the tortures endured there could exceed those of hell.

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**Here is the important evidence of Mr. Ivan Vurbanoff, principal of the Bulgarian school at Constantza.**

August 29, 1916, we were arrested at Constantza and sent under a strong escort to Andrasheshti, department of Ialomitza. We remained there scarcely three weeks when the noise of roaring cannon approached us and an order came that all Turks and Bulgarians should be sent immediately to Faurei Station. The distance of 85 kilometers was covered in one and a half days, double time, under a hot sun and amid clouds of dust. No rest was allowed. Those that would lag behind, tired and exhausted, were subjected to a good thrashing by the gendarmes and had to drag themselves the best they could, in order to escape death by torture at the hands of the cruel Roumanian guards.

The whole plain around the station was filled with exiles from different camps of Ialomitza. It was difficult to recognize one's friends because of the dust. A group of men were being chased so furiously that they arrived breathless and in a state of madness. Mounted gendarmes with whips in hand drove the wretches on before their horses, while those who could no longer keep up the pace fell on the ground and were either trampled under the horses' hoofs or killed outright. Dreadful fear took hold of those pursued: every one tried to escape the pursuing hangman. The maddened fugitives rushed



A happy coming home. Women and children waiting at Braila to be taken to their village Almalii.





Dobroudjans liberated from exile on their way to Braila.

through a village without halting and created a panic. The village commandant, terrified at this sight and not knowing the cause, followed the men quite a distance outside the village and stopped them. Touched by their story, he replaced the cruel commandant of the convoy by another officer. But this last one was not much better than the first. After leaving the village he did the very thing for which his predecessor was dismissed.

Around the station of Faurei were assembled no less than 27,000 abducted Turks and Bulgarians. The plain around the station looked like an immense military camp. Here are the villagers from Kalipetrovo, Almalii and Kara-Omour, Silistra district, who had came here carts, cattle and all. They had taken with them some furniture as well. An order came that no one could take on the train more than 20 kilograms of baggage. An awful chaos ensued. A regular market for carts and animals. Carts, horses, flour, furniture were sold at fabulously low prices. Immense heaps of sold as well as stolen goods were formed, bands of thieves helped themselves to whatever they liked, while others, in the absence of buyers, left their carts, goods and horses at the disposal of the avaricious Roumanian officials, who fought it out among themselves as to who will take the biggest share of the spoils.

They started to load them in open wagons. I happened to be in the last group. The villagers where the train was passing would come out in crowds and throw stones at us. The result was a few broken heads. We were not allowed to get off the cars at the stations. We were compelled to pay our guards goodly sums for filling our bottles with drinking water. It was no rare occurrence, however, to see the villagers snatch away the bottles from the soldiers' hands and dash them on the ground. After

many trials and tribulations we reached Dangeni Station. Here was the headquarters of the northern region of civil prisoners. We were without means, for we had been all searched in Andrasheshti and all money was taken away, leaving each one a few francs for spending money. Some of us got receipts for the sums deposited, for others a special list was made, while still others remained without any written document. Complaints were made later on, the matter was inquired into, the outstanding sums were duly recognized, but the money was never refunded. It all went into the bottomless pocket of the Roumanian functionary.

At Dangeni we were installed into a stable. We arrived there quite late at night, and not having anything with which to make a light we managed to find the manger in the dark and put up there for the night, myself and my companion Peter Rainoff, late secretary of legation. That was our home for several weeks.

Upon our arrival at Dangeni the organization of the northern group of prisoners' camps was instituted, with the administrative seat at Dangeni. (The southern group of camps had its headquarters at Hush). I was appointed as secretary. In the beginning the staff was composed of a director (a colonel), a cashier, a sergeant and myself. The whole district was divided into four big camps, with 21 sub-camps stationed into so many different villages. The camps were at Radautz, Saveni, Ripitcheni and Stephaneshti, and the sub-camps, at Markani, Katzushka, Podriga, Shtudieni, Vlassineshti, Ikizeni (later at Adasheni), Haneshti, Mihalasheni, Dangeni, Ungureni (later at Tchishmaneshti), Nikiteni, Trusheshti (later Hulub) Romaneshti, Ringhileshti, Kalarash (later Ringhileshti), Bivolari and Trifeshti. The camps were under the command of officers who were reputed for their corruption. The sub-camps were in

the hands of sergeants of gendarmerie, men well-known for their cruelty. We were something like a sparrow in the claws of the hawk: our carresses were the butt-end of the rifle and officer's whip and sabre.

When the Bulgarians and Turks were separated from the other civil prisoners (Germans and Austro-Hungarians), orders were issued that we should be placed under an „exceptional treatment“. Soon after an assistant to the director of our district was appointed, Captain Popovitch, a man with pronounced hatred for the Bulgarians. He adhered to the letter of this order of exceptional treatment and gave it the most cruel interpretation. An order was received in October for the construction of special barracks for the prisoners. Notwithstanding the lateness of the season Popovitch insisted for the immediate commencement of the work, for he clearly saw in this order an instrument of torture. The severity of the winter had already begun, the people were without warm clothes, for they were taken from their homes, even from the field work, in a hurry. The earth was frozen deeply and could not be dug, but had to be cut with an ax. The earth in the ditch would freeze over night and had to be cut anew in the morning. Some of the natives advised that they should stop digging, for the soil of northern Moldova is very moist, which was evident by the shallow wells in the vicinity. But no one would listen: there was the order from lassy! Water appeared in abundance at a very small depth. In all kinds of weather the prisoners were forced to dig and all lumber was to be transported by hand. Each barrack was designed to contain 200—250 persons, being 60 meters long, 6 meters wide and one meter deep under the surface. Similar barracks were constructed in all the villages except Miurkani, Katsushka, Nikiteni, Ikimeni, Tru-

sheshti and Mihalasheni, but this summer they were put up even at these sub-camps.

The barracks were constructed several kilometers outside of the villages. Prisoners were not allowed to rent rooms in the villages nor to take their meals there. Sufficient attention was not given to put up the barracks in the proximity of fountains and wells. In one camp the fountain was so far away that the gendarmes in charge did not wish to spoil their comfort and accompany the prisoners so far, and the men were compelled to drink water from pools.

Exception was made, in a limited extent, only for rather intelligent and wealthy prisoners who could afford to pay for this favor. There were special runners — to be sure not among the Bulgarians — who in company with the commandants would arrange these matters amicably and would heap up a goodly sum for both parties. A school master from Braila, Pavel Dimitroff, after spending two or three months in prison, was put up in the barracks because he was a Bulgarian, while the commandant permitted his Jewish companions to live in the village.

Just as soon as the barracks were completed the civil prisoners were installed there. Because of cold, under-feeding and privations there was a shocking mortality. In every sub-camp there were forty to fifty deaths per day. Some of the diagnoses that the gendarmes would send in as the cause of death were very characteristic. One of them was, for example: *Decedat de miseria fisiologica* (died from physiological distress). Food was miserable: beans twice a week, the rest of the time spoiled and frozen potatoes. Men in authority speculated with the food of the poor wretches. In several camps corn-flour was given instead of bread. But there was neither fire nor utensils necessary for its cooking, and men were



obliged to eat it mixed up with cold water, pig fashion. I was an eye-witness when a mother held her boy without any food for several days, for wherever she fed him with this cold porridge the boy would have diarrhea.

The flour as a rule was old, spoiled, bitter, mixed up with sand and dirt. At the sub-camp Miorkani human excreta were found in the flour. In that same sub-camp the prisoners often did not get food for three days at a time.

The commandant had sold the men's rations and put the money in his pocket.

Another plan was practiced in other camps: The commandant would sell the food to a middleman and this last to the prisoners, while the profits were divided. All men in authority, from the highest to the lowest, vied with each other in theft, taking commissions, bribes, and making abuses. Many of them heaped up riches at the expense of the prisoners. The director Colonel Gheorghiu made a fortune of over a million francs, Lieutenant Miho-tzesku 300 to 400 thousand frcs, the cashier Dienesu 200 to 250 thousand frcs., and Andriash about the same sum.

Direct result of this miserable life of our prisoners was the appearance of different epidemics: at first diarrhea, later on dysentery and spotted fever. Of sanitary service, or even of elementary cleanliness, there was not a vestige. It was utterly impossible for the people to keep themselves clean. Firewood was a rare article. Utensils for boiling water were in the possession of very few, namely those that had them brought with them from home. Those without their wives suffered the most and gave the biggest percentage of mortality. The clothing was literally filled with lice which spread the contagion everywhere. No one seemed to have taken any kind of measures against this awful scourge. A tacit understanding seems to have existed for the extermination of our race.

According to official data, which were at my disposal at the office, there were 27,544 persons interned in the northern (Dangeni) region, 12,878 of them being Bulgarians, the rest Turks and Albanians. In November, 1916, 6000 more Dobroudjans were brought with their horses and carriages. These were men who had been ordered to take their grain to certain stations where prices were reported to be higher. They had no idea that they will be considered as civil prisoners. Only 150 carts and about 320 horses arrived. You may imagine where the rest have gone. Fully half of these men were Bulgarians. Later on the prisons of Iassy and Dorohoi liberated 3800 people, among them 200 Bulgarians, the rest Germans, Austrians, Hungarians and Jews, who were permitted to put up at the villages. Two thousand Bulgarians were shown in the books as fugitives, but they were killed in fact. Till the end of March, 1917, according to official statistics, 9500 died, mostly among those that inhabited the barracks, for those in the villages lived under more hygienic conditions. To this number should be added most of those who were shown as fugitives, being much easier to consider them as such rather than to inquire into their names and make the necessary acts of decease.

In order to arrange the supply of food for the prisoners it was necessary to know their exact number. In the first place, the director's office did not have the necessary data, so we were obliged to apply to the camp commanders to supply us with such. It was noticed, however, that there was a considerable discrepancy in these lists from week to week. One of the commandants, for example, had put the number of his men 200 less than the previous week. At my suggestion the office decided to have a census made of all the prisoners in our region. I was appointed a member of the committee.

I was accorded the opportunity to visit all camps and to get more closely acquainted with the prisoners' lot. It was found that there was not a real shortage of prisoners. It was simply this: the commandant had sent 200 men to work on a neighboring farm, and in order to lay hand on their pay he had shown their number 200 men less. That was all. My suspicions were well-founded. It would have been very naive on my part not to have suspected the Roumanian officials, considering my previous knowledge of them.

We visited all the camps. A most shuddering scene was at Haneshti, where spotted fever was making terrible ravages among the prisoners. They seemed to be absolutely abandoned.

No medical help whatsoever, nothing done to improve their general condition. Members of the commission did not dare approach the barracks for fear they would be victims of the contagion. I considered it a criminal act against my conscience and my own people if I were to leave these wretches with the negligence manifested by the Roumanian officials. I entered the first barrack. The scene presented I shall never forget in my life. The imagination of Dante could not have pictured something more horrible. Judging by the clothes piled up along the wall one would conclude that the inmates have been arranged by families. Some of the places were absolutely vacant: every member of the household had died. In one of the corners every one of the family was sick and in dying agony. The mother was not infected as yet and was engaged hunting up and killing the lice in the blanket. Her hands were full of blood and from her fingers hung the rags of man's parasites. Somewhat to the left the only surviving member of the family was the baby, who was taken in charge by another woman. Nearer to me

was a serious-looking girl of 14 years, surrounded by four smaller children. Asking her where her parents were she answered with tears in her eyes: „Day before yesterday my father died, and yesterday my mother“. To-day, surrounded by this awful misery and helplessness, she was the head of the family.. Scarcely had this girl told me her sad story before me appeared a stern village woman who harshly inquired what do we seek there and why do we take notes of the inmates. When I explained to her who I was and that our object was to make an exact list of the prisoners, she retorted with a trembling voice: „This interests me very little; but tell me how long will these sufferings last, what answer will these tyrants give to the civilized world, and what could be done to better the condition of these people? I go from one household to another to keep up their courage, but I see that I am growing weaker daily“. I learned that this 46-year village woman was the late school teacher Ivanka, from Kalipetrovo. She still lived with the remote illusions of what would be the opinion of the civilized world. I learned later that the infernal scenes enacted in the barracks had affected even her fighting spirit and she had asked permission to take quarters in the neighboring village and calm her nerves.

Up to March 1, 1917, out of 1600 inmates of the camp Haneshti 700 were dead.

The same affecting scenes at Dangeni, Ripitcheni, Shtubieni, Bivolari, Romaneshti, Trifeshti, Stefanesti and Podriga. The following day at Ripitcheni I witnessed how they had loaded a cart with corpses. They were piled up like sheaves and were securely tied with a rope. Very much the way the Dobroudjan farmer is carting sheaves for thrashing. The funeral was performed without any ritual. One could hardly believe this thing, considering that



the Roumanians are very religious and make the sign of the cross even when they pass a church. But even more horrible than that was the fact that these people, claiming a higher culture, the very next day were transporting food for the prisoners with the same cart, without any disinfection. Naturally the epidemy went on unabated.

In one of the barracks I saw a man stripped naked trembling with cold. The poor fellow preferred to suffer cold for some hours rather than the torture from the lice, so he buried himself naked in the straw. Another affecting scene near by. A man lay in agonizing groans on the floor. He was literally being eaten up by lice. The whole body was full of plagues. In some parts of the body and about the eyes there were layers upon layers of lice.

In November, 1916, another group of 280 internes arrived, mostly Bulgarians and Turks, and about ten Austro-Hungarian subjects. They had accompanied the transport from Ialomitza to Moldova of a large batch of stallions belonging to the state. Chief of the guards was Lieutenant Frangopoulo, son of the Constantza merchant Rali Frangopoulo. During the whole voyage the men were given a quarter loaf of bread per day. The stallions were arranged four in a row. As a result of kicks, privations and exposure one hundred of these men died on the road. At night the convoy would stop only for few hours, and the conductors were compelled to remain close to their horses and hold the bridle. They arrived in a most pitiable condition: exhausted and full of wounds from the kicks. The Austro-Hungarians were immediately put apart and installed in the village, but the Bulgarians, including the wealthy farmers Neiko Stoyanoff, Nikolai Stoyanoff and Stefan Velikoff, from Constantza, together with the Turks, were piled up in the barracks. Next day they were sent



to work on the railway line Dangenî — Radautz, then in course of construction. After many efforts and supplications about thirty of the wealthier men were put up at the village. The rest had to remain in the barracks. Only three of them are living to-day, the rest are all dead. All the survivors of that group, namely, thirty of those who had moved to the village (excepting Neiko Stoyanoff, who died while at work on the railway) and the three inmates of the barracks, are still exceedingly feeble. The sufferings of these people reached the ears of the War Ministry at Iassy and the matter was a subject of a special inquiry. I was present when the sergeant of the convoy was being examined. With tears in his eyes he described to the captain in charge of the inquiry how the men were being tortured and his narrative was brought to a close by the following words: — „How often did I tell the lieutenant to stop this inhuman treatment, that they were men after all and should be differently dealt with, but he would not listen and would become even more savage.“ This inquiry, however, scarcely made an improvement in the manner of our treatment; on the contrary, the situation became even worse.

Let every Bulgarian well remember the name of Lieutenant Frangopoulo, also the chiefs of the region Gheorghiu and Zancirescu, the cashier Dinescu Vasili, Lieutenant Mihotsescu Todor, the sergeants Ionescu (camp Bivolari) and Zissu Aristidi, and all the gendarmes from sergeant to private, who recognized only one law, that of the lash. For a long time to come their names will be symbols of inhumanity and cruelty.

Special mention should be made of the services of Dr. E. Toma, an Albanian from Medjidie. When the epidemic was at its height he was at his post, always with the sick, while his kind words and devotion to the suf-

ferers was a better medicine than the ridiculously small quantity of quinine given by the authorities. His zeal and devotion were wrongly interpreted by his superiors; he was accused of being in sympathy with the enemies of Roumania, and he was promptly removed, as a punishment. When from the train which was carrying us to our native land we looked for the last time upon our golgothas where for 17 months we spent days of misery and affliction, we noticed near the station an elderly man lifting his hat and with tearful eyes bidding adieu to those with whom he lived and suffered. He was the Albanian Dr. Toma.

The close of September, 1916, at the prisoners' camp Shipoti and the Southern Region (Hush) were interned as civil prisoners all officers in the Roumanian army from Bulgarian extraction, namely 15 officers of the line, 4 physicians, 3 druggists and a civil engineer. August, 1917, all these officers and thirty-six priests were assembled at Haneshti and placed under a severe regime. Two months previously a secret order was received to make arrangements that in case Moldova should be exposed to occupation by the enemy all Bulgarian officers and priests should be taken over into Russia, while the rest of the prisoners should be supplied with 7 days' rations and should be left where they are, under command of the local mayors and a committee constituted by prisoners. Sept. 1, 1917, an order was issued to the effect that all imprisoned officers should be sent back to their regiments, that they should not be considered as removed from office and interned in prisoners' camps, that they should be given all their back pay, and that in the future they should not be named Bulgarian officers as heretofore, but Roumanian officers. If the imprisonment of these men (whose only crime was that they were from Bulga-

rian descent) did not cost them the loss of three physicians and several officers dead from spotted fever, one might consider their arrest and their subsequent reinstatement in office a farse comedy possible of enactment only in Roumania.

**Here is the testimony of Eniu Iordanoff, a merchant of Constantza, good patriot whom we have known of old.**

**Now he has weakened considerably. Once a robust man, now he stands before us with drooping cheeks and emaciated body. He shall have to begin life anew, for all his fortune is gone. His courage is remarkable, may be because of his delirious joy that he has seen the end of his trials.**

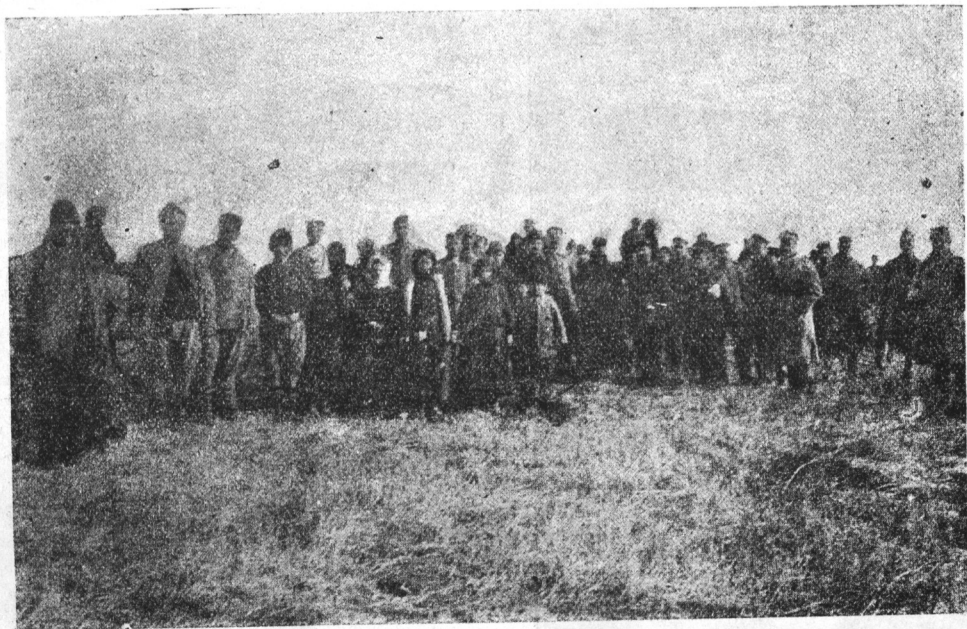
From Constantza we were taken by special train to Kasumbeshti, district of Ialomitza. 1800 men were packed in horses' wagons like sardines. Three weeks after, all Bulgarians and Turks were ordered out on the public square. I remember it was Friday. We waited from 6 in the morning until 3 after noon, then we started for Faurei station, 85 kilometers away. The distance was covered in one day and a half, under a scorching sun and clouds of dust. No repose was given anywhere. The whip and the butt-end of the rifle were our caresses. The big plain around the station was crowded with civil prisoners. We were piled into dirty horses' wagons which we had to clean ourselves. At every station we were met by men



Exiled Dobroudjans with their children at Braila.



Exiled Dobroudjans, on their way home, waiting at Braila for the doctor.



A group of Bulgarians from Dobroudja just returned from exile.



and women who hooted us and threw stones at us. While waiting at one of the stations the guard sitting at the door of the wagon fell asleep and dropped on the ground. The prisoners were accused of pushing him on purpose. They were surrounded by the gendarmes and badly beaten.

From Dangenî to Ripitcheni we were placed in low smaller wagons, terribly crowded. The order was given to sit down and lower our heads so as not to be seen from the outside. Much to our discomfort we had to put up with it, otherwise the whips and the bullets whistled about us.

Assistant commandant of our camp was the Sergeant-Major George Repede, from Galatz, a very cruel man. Assault and money were two things of which he was very fond, and he managed to accumulate twenty to thirty thousand francs in the shape of bribes from the prisoners.

Our commandants were mostly officers of the reserve, sons or protégés of the nobility. They were exceedingly cruel men, who knew nothing about pity or compassion.

Our sufferings were many. One needs weeks to describe them. Thank God they are over. We will bequeath to posterity an organic hatred for Roumania, a country of tchokoys, which considers every Bulgarian as a national enemy and plants in the souls of its people only vengeance and extermination of everything that is Bulgarian.

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# LIST № 1.

Sept. 3, 1916, the barracks and prisons of Dobritch witnessed the cruel torture and murder of 57 peaceful citizens, killed by Roumanian troops:

N a m e	Age	Locality	Occupation
Sava Stoyanoff . . . .	30	Dobritch	farmer
Dimiter Siméonoff. . . .	50	"	well-digger
Apostol Dontcheff. . . .	25	"	farmer
Ivan Dontcheff . . . .	27	"	"
Athanas Kostandinoff . . . .	58	"	spinner
Subi Ignateff . . . .	50	"	farmer
Ivan K. Dioulgeroff . . . .	35	"	"
Eftim Katrandjieff . . . .	39	"	"
Ivan Katrandjieff . . . .	40	"	"
Peter Ivantcheff. . . .	37	"	"
Kunio Ivantcheff . . . .	42	"	"
Iordan Staneff . . . .	41	"	shepherd
Iusseïn Bariëff . . . .	22	"	gardener
Assen D. Handjieff . . . .	25	"	bar-keeper
Neytcho Ivanoff. . . .	65	"	wheelwright
Veliko Stoyanoff . . . .	60	"	farmer
Todor V. Dolashika . . . .	50	"	laborer
Lazar Grosdeff . . . .	32	"	"
Geor. Iv. Chochkoff . . . .	23	"	farmer
Ilia Eneff . . . .	60	"	shepherd
Dimo Christoff . . . .	29	"	bar-keeper
Ivan Pecheff . . . .	65	"	laborer
Asparuch Stantcheff . . . .	30	"	"
Panayot Shtereff . . . .	50	Baladja	farmer
Den. Yordanoff . . . .	39	Bogdanovo	"
Ivan Koleff . . . .	27	"	"
Vassil Stoyanoff. . . .	60	"	"
Ivan Angeloff . . . .	26	"	"
Andreia Mihailoff . . . .	24	A. Kouioussou	"
Iordan Petroff . . . .	38	Toikouioussou	"
Gotcho Eneff. . . .	51	Dobritch	merchant
Tota Angeloff . . . .	80	"	laborer
Eniou Vassileff . . . .	39	"	"
Dimiter Topaloff . . . .	48	Kavarna	"
Sava Bogdanoff. . . .	90	A. Kouioussou	gardener
Michel Paskaleff . . . .	30	Dobritch	shepherd





A whole family massacred in their own home at Sreberna by pitiless Roumanians.



N a m e	Age	Locality	Occupatron
Nedelia Stoyanova. . .	28	Ayorman	housekeeper
D. Jous. Mehmedoff . .	50	Dobritch	gardener
L. Jous. Mehmedoff . .	45	"	farmer
Moustapha Alieff . . .	26	"	"
Vissel Rioustemoff . . .	30	"	"
Djemalel. Septaroff . .	55	"	laborer
Hachid Selimoff. . . .	26	"	shoemaker
Jounouss Heussein. . .	32	"	farmer
Abibula Kaiuloff . . .	33	"	laborer
Raim Kara Ahmed . . .	18	"	"
Ali Kara Moustafoff . .	16	"	"
M. H. Tchakuroff . . .	17	"	farmer
H. Has. Ibriamoff . . .	28	"	"
Dervish Shabanoff . . .	15	"	"
Roushid Shtabanoff . .	29	"	"
Vissel Adiloff. . . . .	24	"	"
Zekeria Abd. Halil. . . .	28	"	"
Ali Mehmedoff . . . . .	21	"	"
Osman Haireidinoff . . .	20	"	"
Ahmed Arifoff . . . . .	34	"	"
Ahmed Selemedoff . . .	35	"	"



## LIST № 2.

of persons killed outright or dead as result of privations, hunger and assault, citizens of Kara-Omour, department of Silistra, abducted into Roumania Aug. 21, 1916, this being the first list on hand. The other two lists will be subsequently given.

№	Name of deceased	Age	Occupation
1	Ivan Bayadjikoff . . . . .	50	farmer
2	Jeka Ivanova . . . . .	49	housekeeper
3	Jeka Baeva . . . . .	2	child
4	Ivan Iovkoff . . . . .	1	"
5	Neda Petrova . . . . .	50	housekeeper
6	Iordan Petroff . . . . .	10	child
7	Ivan Staneff . . . . .	70	farmer
8	Petko Marinoff . . . . .	50	"
9	Jetchka Marinova . . . . .	75	housekeeper
10	Peniou Deneff . . . . .	65	woodworker
11	Nikola Dimitroff . . . . .	75	farmer
12	George Nedeltcheff . . . . .	1 m	child
13	Jeliaska Vulkova . . . . .	30	housekeeper
14	Michel Siméonoff . . . . .	75	farmer
15	Konstantin Koleff . . . . .	55	blacksmith
16	Konstantin Koleff . . . . .	1 m	child
17	Athanase Nedeltcheff . . . . .	4	"
18	Marin Jeleff . . . . .	2	"
19	Neda Jeleztcheva . . . . .	75	housekeeper
20	Kalia Christova . . . . .	70	"
21	Pena Todorova . . . . .	35	"
22	Stoika Todorova . . . . .	6 m	child
23	Minka Dimova . . . . .	30	housekeeper
24	Stoyan Dimoff . . . . .	1 m	child
25	Marin Datcheff . . . . .	2	"
26	Neyka Christova . . . . .	1	"
27	Roussi Datcheff . . . . .	60	farmer
28	Nedelia Ganeva . . . . .	90	housekeeper
29	Dona Ganeva . . . . .	48	"
30	Stoyana Todorova . . . . .	30	"
31	Marinka Todorova . . . . .	3	child
32	Nedia Todorova . . . . .	1 m	"

№	Name of deceased	Age	Occupation
33	Iordan Todoroff . . . . .	30	farmer
34	Georges Maksimoff. . . . .	70	"
35	Ivan Maksimoff . . . . .	38	school-teacher
36	Dimo Ivanoff . . . . .	75	farmer
37	Nikola Draganoff. . . . .	65	"
38	Marika Draganova . . . . .	65	housekeeper
39	Peniou Nikoloff . . . . .	18	farmer
40	Velika Pavleva . . . . .	55	housekeeper
41	Stoyan Pavloff. . . . .	25	tailor
42	Atanasa Jeleva . . . . .	5	child
43	Dimo Stoyanoff . . . . .	1	"
44	Konstantin Niagoloff . . . . .	52	woodworker
45	Todor Stoyanoff . . . . .	3	child
46	Vasilka Vasileva . . . . .	5	"
47	Michel Krusteff . . . . .	65	farmer
48	Rada Mihaleva . . . . .	65	housekeeper
49	Lioutza Ivanova . . . . .	22	"
50	Michel Ivanoff. . . . .	1 m	child
51	Krustiou Iourdanoff. . . . .	1 m	"
52	Penka Koleva . . . . .	6	"
53	Stoyan Krusteff. . . . .	2	"
54	Pena Dimitrova . . . . .	55	housekeeper
55	Dimitr Georgieff . . . . .	48	school-teacher
56	Rada Kirova . . . . .	58	housekeeper
57	Subi Todoroff . . . . .	60	farmer
58	Petka Subova . . . . .	60	housekeeper
59	Velko Iv. K. Ormanski . . . . .	65	farmer
60	Jova Velkova . . . . .	60	housekeeper
61	Stoyan Siméonoff . . . . .	70	farmer
62	Stoyana Stoyanova . . . . .	68	housekeeper
63	Athanas Petroff . . . . .	2	child
64	Koika Dimova . . . . .	2 m	"
65	Kalina Stoitchewa . . . . .	8	"
66	Stoyan Stoitcheff. . . . .	4	"
67	Slava Verbanova . . . . .	1 m	"
68	Dimiter Verbanoff . . . . .	1 m	"
69	Rada Verbanova . . . . .	4	"
70	Georgiana Christova . . . . .	7	"
71	Kalina Michaleva . . . . .	75	housekeeper
72	Christo Michaleff. . . . .	46	farmer
73	Vela Michaleva . . . . .	34	housekeeper
74	Rada Velkova . . . . .	1 m	child
75	Jeliou Velkoff. . . . .	2	"

№	Name of deceased	Age	Occupation
76	Gantcho Stoyanoff . . . . .	80	farmer
77	Stefan Raytcheff . . . . .	35	sanit. agent
78	Gena Stefanova . . . . .	2	child
79	Peniou Nikoloff . . . . .	70	farmer
80	Kaniou Nikoloff . . . . .	55	"
81	Nada Kuneva . . . . .	53	housekeeper
82	Jana Kuneva . . . . .	20	"
83	Gospodina Zlateva . . . . .	30	"
84	Ivan Zlateff. . . . .	2	child
85	Marin Pavloff . . . . .	1	"
86	Maria Christova . . . . .	65	housekeeper
87	Gergana Marinova . . . . .	1	child
88	Vela Stoyanova . . . . .	2	"
89	Stoyan Petroff. . . . .	55	farmer
90	Stoyan Petkoff . . . . .	2	child
91	Mitio Velkoff . . . . .	60	farmer
92	Christo Miteff . . . . .	3	child
93	Veltcho Velkoff . . . . .	2	"
94	Jelesa Miteva . . . . .	1 m	"



# LIST № 3.

of persons dead from privations, assault and hunger, inhabitants of Doymoushlar. district of Silistra, abducted into Moldova by the Roumanian authorities in 1916.

№	Name of deceased	Age	Occupation
1	Ivan Lakeroff . . . . .	48	farmer
2	Geno Christoff . . . . .	48	"
3	Iv. St. Gvosdeikoff . . . . .	40	"
4	Krusto Tcherneff . . . . .	30	"
5	Pavli Ivanoff . . . . .	34	"
6	Stoyko Krestiloff . . . . .	34	"
7	Pavliou Staneff . . . . .	40	"
8	Eniou Keroff . . . . .	60	"
9	Marin Dotcheff . . . . .	16	"
10	Michel Kirtcheff . . . . .	50	"
11	Peter Christoff . . . . .	48	"
12	Kiro P. Christoff . . . . .	16	"
13	Todor N. Iovtcheff . . . . .	56	"
14	Eniou T. Ourloeff . . . . .	50	school-teacher
15	Pani Kamarasheff . . . . .	50	farmer
16	Athanas At. Michoff . . . . .	30	"
17	Dimitr Todoroff . . . . .	55	"
18	Doko Ilieff . . . . .	50	"
19	Ivan Moskoff . . . . .	58	"
20	E. Iv. Ch. Zaneff . . . . .	16	"
21	Dontcho Iourdanoff . . . . .	15	"
22	Doni Petroff . . . . .	26	"
23	Dimo Velikoff . . . . .	20	"
24	Bekir Anisheff . . . . .	48	"
25	Rachim M. Pandoff . . . . .	45	"
26	Iblsh Rashidoff . . . . .	30	"
27	Ismail Sali Tcholak . . . . .	40	"
28	Stoitcho Georgieff . . . . .	45	"
29	Kostadin Ganeff . . . . .	55	"
30	Ali Nedjib . . . . .	40	"

NOTE 1. — List № 2 is signed by the same witnesses.

NOTE 2. — For those who are interested we can show them the original documents.

Witnesses { L. Boyadjieff  
N. Petkoff.

## LIST № 4.

Persons abducted and sentenced by Roumanian Courts.

Stefan Marintcheff, of TOUTRAKAN, for more than a year secretary at the prison camp of Saveni, near Dorohoi, has given us the following list of 26 DOBROUDJANS sentenced by Roumanian courts of justice for having infringed art. 11. They are still inmates of the prison of Iassy. Their only crime is that they have been caught outside of the camp limits.

№	Name	Age	Occupation	Last residence	When sent to prison
1	Anghel Ivanoff . . .	32	baker	Constantza	25/8 1916
2	Ah. H. Skender. . .	37	farmer	Bei Boun	23/7 "
3	Af. A. Redjeb . . .	30	"	Kaz Bouroun	25/8 "
4	K. P. Penkoff . . .	18	gardener	?	25/8 "
5	Kiro Stoyanoff . . .	24	farmer	M. Kainar	2/7 "
6	K. M. Demiroff . . .	18	"	Kara Orm.	23/7 "
7	Dim. Christoff . . .	31	gardener	Kalarash	25/8 "
8	D. P. Tsenkoff . . .	21	"	?	25/ " "
9	Dim. Ivanoff . . .	41	merchant	Touldja	25/ " "
10	Georgi Entcheff . . .	18	woodworker	Toutrakan	25/ " "
11	Gospod. Doutcheff . . .	22	farmer	Guurgedj.	25/ " "
12	Halil Osman . . .	56	hodja	Doimoushl	25/ " "
13	Hassan loussein . . .	35	farmer	Bosna	25/8 "
14	Mih. Dobreff . . .	18	gardener	?	25/ " "
15	Mehmed Moussa . . .	24	"	Seid Faku	25/7 "
16	Mehm. Kerim . . .	28	schol teacher	M. Kainar	25/ " "
17	Mar. Zlateff . . .	38	farmer	"	23/ " "
18	Mach. Mehmed. . .	16	hodja	Tchiler	23/8 "
19	Nic. Georgieff . . .	66	brick-maker	?	25/ " "
20	Redj. loussein . . .	35	farmer	Papuktchil	25/7 "
21	S. S. Moraroff . . .	50	gardener	?	22/8 "
22	Stef. Petroff . . .	25	farmer	M. Kainar	25/7 "
23	Stef. Angeloff . . .	28	coppersmith	?	23/ " "
24	Vel. Ivanoff . . .	20	gardener	"	23/ " "
25	Vel. Michailoff . . .	17	"	"	23/ " "
26	Ant. Georgieff . . .	21	"	"	23/ " "

We keep the original of this list at the disposal of those interested.



# LIST № 5.

of persons dead from privations, assault and disease,  
abducted from their homes at Silistra and Kara-Omour  
and carried into Moldova, the prison camp Shtoubieni,  
August 21, 1916.

No	Name	Age	from where	Occupation	where dead
1	Despina T. Mineva . .	60	Silistra	housekeeper	Moldova
2	Ivanka Georgieva . .	30	"	"	"
3	Kaliou R. Kaltcheff . .	57	"	retired	"
4	Kaliou Rizanoff . .	60	"	laborer	"
5	Jeko D. Ivanoff . .	18	"	student	"
6	Dr. T. Gabrovski . .	45	"	physician	"
7	Dr. K. Hadjioglou . .	35	"	"	"
8	Todor Shivatcheff . .	45	"	laborer	"
9	Jeliou Kalinoff . .	45	"	merchant	"
10	Spiro Kostoff . .	50	Karal	"	"
11	Nedelia Miteva . .	60	K. Omur	"	Shtoubieni
12	Gotcho Miteff . .	30	"	farmer	"
13	Banio Dimitroff . .	60	"	"	"
14	Geniou Iovtcheff . .	30	"	"	"
15	Nedelia Stoyanova . .	70	"	housekeeper	"
16	Iordan Alexieff . .	14	"	child	"
17	Jela Alevieva . .	10	"	"	"
18	Ivanka Iourdanova . .	3	"	"	"
19	Stoyan Rousseff . .	70	"	farmer	"
20	Roussi Stoyanoff . .	35	"	"	Hospital
21	Dona Christova . .	1	"	child	Shtoubieni
22	Andon Ianakieff . .	60	"	farmer	"
23	Koliou Peneff . .	2	"	child	"
24	Mintcho Fileff . .	55	"	farmer	"
25	Dimitr Georgieff . .	1	"	child	"
26	Ivan Deneff . .	65	"	farmer	"
27	Todora Ivanova . .	65	"	housekeeper	"

Silistra, 12 March, 1918.

Witnesses: { L. Boyadjieff  
N. Petkoff.

# LIST № 6.

of persons dead from assault, privation and disease, inhabitants of Kara-Omour, department of Silistra, abducted into camp Podriga, Moldova.

№	Name of deceased	Age	Occupation	Where deceased
1	Gani Diankoff . . . .	70	farmer	P O D R I G A
2	Jeleska Genova . . . .	65	housekeeper	
3	Nedeltcho Nedkoff . . . .	1	child	
4	Maria Nedeltcheva . . . .	42	housekeeper	
5	Rada Nedeltcheva . . . .	13	child	
6	Athanas Nedeltcheff . . . .	2	"	
7	Christo Nedeltcheff . . . .	8	"	
8	Nedeltcho Niagoloff . . . .	4	"	
9	Ivan Rousseff . . . .	55	farmer	
10	Stoianka Rousseva . . . .	28	housekeeper	
11	Todorka Rousseva . . . .	3	child	
12	Girgina Boshkova . . . .	3	"	
13	Kalia Boshkova . . . .	3	"	
14	Raitcho Tcholakoff . . . .	58	farmer	
15	Christo Tcholakoff . . . .	65	"	
16	Baiou Tchanoff . . . .	53	"	
17	Rada Bayeva . . . .	50	housekeeper	
18	Athanas Raytcheff . . . .	30	farmer	
19	Stoyan Raytcheff . . . .	28	"	
20	R. Athanassoff . . . .	3	child	
21	Kirana Christova . . . .	65	housekeeper	
22	Tchubra Dimitrova . . . .	60	"	
23	Tchubra Stoyanova . . . .	4	child	
24	Stoyan Zlateff . . . .	33	farmer	
25	Georgi Zlateff . . . .	25	"	
26	Donka Zlateva . . . .	57	housekeeper	
27	St. Stoyanova . . . .	33	"	
28	Kalia Petrova . . . .	34	"	
29	Zlati Petroff . . . .	3	child	
30	Georgi Tchanoff . . . .	55	farmer	
31	Ivan Tchanoff . . . .	53	"	
32	Georgi Stoyanoff . . . .	60	"	
33	Slava Dobрева . . . .	65	housekeeper	
34	Kaliou Rousseff . . . .	2	child	
35	Rayno Ivanoff . . . .	30	farmer	
36	Ivan Raynoff . . . .	1	child	
37	Nicola Minkoff . . . .	70	farmer	

No	Name of deceased	Age	Occupation	Where deceased
38	Dobra Nikolova . . . .	65	housekeeper	A
39	Stoyan Nicoloff . . . .	35	farmer	
40	Nicola Stoyanoff . . . .	6	child	
41	Zlata Stoyanova . . . .	1	"	
42	Jetcha Miteva . . . .	1	"	
43	Minka Boshkova . . . .	32	housekeeper	
44	Ianaki Boshkoff . . . .	3	child	
45	Maria Nedeltcheva . . . .	2	child	
46	Boshko Athanassoff . . . .	60	farmer	
47	Boshko Nedeltcheff . . . .	20	student	
48	Pena Nedeltcheva . . . .	45	housekeeper	G
49	Maria Nedeltcheva . . . .	14	child	
50	Dimitar Todoroff . . . .	70	farmer	
51	Todor Dimitroff . . . .	45	"	
52	Gana Todorova . . . .	45	housekeeper	
53	Slava Todorova . . . .	45	"	
54	Vela Todorova . . . .	18	"	
55	Marinka Todorova . . . .	3	child	
56	Stoyan Todoroff . . . .	55	farmer	
57	Krustina Rouseva . . . .	38	housekeeper	R
58	Peniou Rousseff . . . .	6	child	
59	Antcho Stoyanoff . . . .	2	"	
60	Eniou Ivanoff . . . .	58	farmer	
61	Stoyan Eneff . . . .	30	"	
62	Iourdanka Stoyanova . . . .	28	housekeeper	
63	Marinka Stoyanova . . . .	7	child	
64	Minko Stoyanoff . . . .	5	"	
65	Athanas Stoyanoff . . . .	1	"	
66	Todora Ivanova . . . .	25	housekeeper	D
67	Stoika Manolova . . . .	45	"	
68	Gergina Manolova . . . .	18	"	
69	Slav Ivanoff . . . .	1	child	
70	Dona Ivanova . . . .	45	housekeeper	
71	Koliou Ivanoff . . . .	15	child	
72	Micho Ivanoff . . . .	3	"	
73	Stoyanka Kostova . . . .	50	housekeeper	
74	Ivan Baeff . . . .	60	farmer	
75	Rada Baeva . . . .	60	housekeeper	P
76	Katinka Stoyanova . . . .	28	"	
77	Marinka Stoyanova . . . .	2	child	
78	Iourdan Baeff . . . .	1	"	
79	Keran Dimitroff . . . .	70	farmer	
80	Roussi Christoff . . . .	2	child	

№	Name of deceased	Age	Occupation	Where deceased
81	Boris Nicoloff . . . .	4	child	
82	Marika Nicolova . . . .	2		
83	Marinka Stoyanova . . . .	45	housekeeper	
84	Stoyan Slavoff . . . .	65	farmer	
85	Dobri Stoyanoff . . . .	25	"	
86	Todora Nicolova . . . .	40	housekeeper	A
87	Michal Nicoloff . . . .	1	child	
88	Kunio Baeff . . . .	48	farmer	
89	Christo Peitcheff . . . .	48	"	
90	Peitcho Michaleff . . . .	70	"	
91	Nedeltcho Jeinoff . . . .	1	child	G
92	Rada Nedeltcheva . . . .	27	housekeeper	
93	Kouna Georgieva . . . .	7	child	
94	Ivan Kussoff . . . .	60	farmer	
95	Slava Kostova . . . .	29	housekeeper	
96	Stoyana Kostova . . . .	2	child	
97	Ivanka Entcheva . . . .	5	"	I
98	Roussi Zlateff . . . .	17	"	
99	Jeniou Zlateff . . . .	20	farmer	
100	Mara Velikova . . . .	60	housekeeper	
101	Dimitra Ivanova . . . .	45	"	R
102	Raino Ivanoff . . . .	1	child	
103	Andon Ivanoff . . . .	1	"	
104	Athanas Jeleskoff . . . .	2	"	
105	Gantcho Jeleskoff . . . .	4	"	
106	Athanas Todoroff . . . .	30	carriage-maker	
107	Mitio Ivanoff . . . .	3	child	D
108	Vassilka Andonova . . . .	55	housekeeper	
109	Georgi Athanasoff . . . .	7	child	
110	Stoyana Athanassova . . . .	4	"	
111	Bona Todorova . . . .	60	housekeeper	
112	Krustiou Rousseff . . . .	55	farmer	
113	Burna Dimova . . . .	58	housekeeper	O
114	Dimo Rousseff . . . .	10	child	
115	Stoyana Faleva . . . .	6	"	
116	Dimo Faleff . . . .	3	"	
117	Rada Ganeva . . . .	38	housekeeper	
118	Velika Ganeva . . . .	8	child	P
119	Subotin Ganeff . . . .	3	"	
120	Mitiou Niagoloff . . . .	58	farmer	
121	Petra Miteva . . . .	55	housekeeper	
122	Kerana Velikova . . . .	3	child	
123	Bona Subotinkova . . . .	58	housekeeper	

No	Name of deceased	Age	Occupation	Where deceased
124	Niagol Peneff . . . .	55	farmer	P O D R I G A
125	Niagol Subeff . . . .	1	child	
126	Peyka Angelova . . . .	38	housekeeper	
127	Marika Angelova . . . .	2	child	
128	Mitio Ivanoff . . . .	1	"	
129	Angel Mihoff . . . .	20	farmer	
130	Maria Mihova . . . .	58	housekeeper	
131	Jeliou Peneff . . . .	1	child	
132	Kuniou Peneff . . . .	52	farmer	
133	Mitio Gotcheff . . . .	1	child	
134	Rayna Stoyanova . . . .	60	housekeeper	
135	Gergina Marinova . . . .	2	child	
136	Radka Stoyanova . . . .	4	"	
137	Vultchan Baeff . . . .	50	farmer	
138	Kunio Vultchanoff . . . .	19	"	
139	Nedelia Rousseva . . . .	3	child	
140	Mita Todorova . . . .	44	housekeeper	
141	Vulko Christoff . . . .	49	farmer	
142	Kouna Velkova . . . .	49	housekeeper	
143	Zlata Vulkova . . . .	8	child	
144	Stoyana Vulkova . . . .	5	"	
145	Todor Vulkoff . . . .	5	"	

Silistra, March 20, 1918.

Witnesses : { L. Boyadjieff.  
N. Petkoff.



# LIST № 7.

of dead and killed in Moldova, inhabitants of the township of Ghele ndjik, Dobritch district, abducted during the Roumanian retreat.

№	N a m e	A g e	№	N a m e	A g e
	<b>from Ghelendjik</b>				
1	Todor Velkoff . . . . .	45	24	Stefan Petroff . . . . .	50
2	Gospodin Tsoneff . . . . .	43	25	Georgi Georgieff . . . . .	17
3	Dragie Georgieff . . . . .	25	26	Jourdan Stantchoff . . . . .	20
4	Baho Stoeff . . . . .	30		<b>Kara-Kourt</b>	
5	Stefan Dobreff . . . . .	17	27	Dimiter Ilieff . . . . .	66
6	Paroush Trifonoff . . . . .	58	28	Roussi Marinoff . . . . .	56
7	Dimiter Dobreff . . . . .	48	29	Jelesko Ivanoff . . . . .	17
8	Gentcho G. Trifonoff . . . . .	28	30	Georgi Jeleff . . . . .	56
9	Athanas Velikoff . . . . .	34	31	Momtcho Kuneff . . . . .	43
10	Halil Salieff . . . . .	60	32	Georgi Dobreff At. . . . .	42
11	Athanas Pascaleff . . . . .	18	33	Koliu Velikoff . . . . .	45
12	Jousmen Tchaoushoff . . . . .	52	34	Ivan Ganeff . . . . .	41
13	Mehmed Jouriouk . . . . .	50	35	Pascal Jordanoff . . . . .	17
14	Osman Haliloff . . . . .	43	36	Ivan Ivanoff . . . . .	49
15	Refat Moutafoff . . . . .	19	37	Georgi D. Gunguff . . . . .	18
	<b>Imelnek</b>		38	Halil Sandinoff . . . . .	50
16	Ivan P. Handjieff . . . . .	65	39	Ali Moustafoff . . . . .	27
17	Gantcho Dimitroff . . . . .	28	40	Hashim Tchaoumoff . . . . .	49
	<b>Hashladjak</b>		41	Joussniou Joussmen . . . . .	17
18	Gospodin Ivanoff . . . . .	35	42	Iset Haliloff . . . . .	46
	<b>Tchair-Harman</b>			<b>Imelnek</b>	
19	Koiu Georgeff . . . . .	65	43	Mihal Pantaleeff . . . . .	40
20	Sandiou Doneff . . . . .	18		<b>Hashladjak</b>	
21	Ivan Christoff . . . . .	48	44	Asis Salieff . . . . .	66
	<b>Kaba-Sakal</b>			<b>Tchair-Harman</b>	
22	Jordan Dimoff . . . . .	17	45	Jordan Kotaroff . . . . .	60
23	Gospodin Mihoff . . . . .	40	46	Kolju Atanassoff . . . . .	18
			47	Petko Stoyanoff . . . . .	30

№	N a m e	A g e	№	N a m e	A g e
<b>Kaba-Sakal</b>			78	Koliou Ivanoff . . . . .	22
48	Nikola Gigoff . . . . .	55	79	Bekir Veltcheff . . . . .	22
49	Mitio Mihoff . . . . .	45	80	Mehmed Haliloff . . . . .	17
50	Zlati Georgieff . . . . .	35	<b>Aydan-Tchoufa</b>		
51	Mintcho Koleff . . . . .	35	81	Koliou Stoyanoff . . . . .	70
52	Georgi Kuneff . . . . .	21	82	Ivan Vassileff . . . . .	18
<b>Kara-Kourt</b>			83	Vassil Jelefi . . . . .	45
53	Peter Todoroff . . . . .	68	84	Vassil Patchoff . . . . .	70
<b>Aletchkeuï</b>			85	Vassil Jeleskoff . . . . .	17
54	Koliou Christoff . . . . .	70	<b>Hashka-dam</b>		
55	Mirtcho Georgieff . . . . .	66	86	Peter Nedelkoff . . . . .	17
56	Stanioi Georgieff . . . . .	26	87	Todor Markoff . . . . .	20
57	Georgi Ianakeff . . . . .	56	88	Stoyan Dimitroff . . . . .	60
58	Kunio Ivanoff . . . . .	60	89	Kosta Nikoloff . . . . .	47
<b>Veli-Fak</b>			90	Todor Todoroff . . . . .	40
59	Zlati Subeff . . . . .	45	91	Jourdan Koleff . . . . .	45
60	Velko Vasseff . . . . .	70	92	Aptich Osmanoff . . . . .	17
61	Christo Miteff . . . . .	17	<b>Kioustekchler</b>		
62	Ivan Dimireff . . . . .	20	93	Dragi Georgieff . . . . .	17
63	Mitio Peneff . . . . .	46	94	Stefan Bojiloff . . . . .	50
64	Todor Miteff . . . . .	35	<b>Kiougeler</b>		
65	Kostadin Mineff . . . . .	46	95	Siouleman Apapoul . . . . .	70
66	Dimiter Velkoff . . . . .	65	96	Ahmed Aliloff . . . . .	48
67	Stoyan Todoroff . . . . .	55	97	Hachim Ichimoff . . . . .	50
68	Jeles. I. Anastasoff . . . . .	26	98	Shakir Jopozoff . . . . .	45
69	Jelesko Mihailoff . . . . .	60	99	Mehmed Moustafoff . . . . .	46
70	Kiro Todoroff . . . . .	60	100	Yaiya Ristomoff . . . . .	46
71	Miho Georgieff . . . . .	54	101	Kadir Shabanoff . . . . .	25
72	Dobri Vassileff . . . . .	45	102	Vassil Hrisoff . . . . .	65
<b>Bash-Bounar</b>			103	Ivan Georgieff . . . . .	40
73	Jelesko Georgieff . . . . .	70	104	Kiro Georgieff . . . . .	67
74	Ivan Angeloff . . . . .	33	105	Vassil Ilieff . . . . .	45
75	Georgi Vassileff . . . . .	40	106	Jeliou Koleff . . . . .	30
76	Todor Filipoff . . . . .	17	107	Jelesko Dimitroff . . . . .	65
77	Petioi Kuneff . . . . .	35	108	Dimo Tomoff . . . . .	38

No	N a m e	A g e	No	N a m e	A g e
109	Jeliu Medeff . . . .	43	128	Nedeltcho Jeleff . . . .	65
110	Mihail Todoroff . . . .	25	129	Mintcho Vassileff . . . .	27
111	Todor Peneff . . . .	53	130	Todor Gospodinoff . . . .	35
112	Kostadin Nikoloff . . . .	55	131	Doniu Kuneff . . . .	70
113	Mitio Doytcheff . . . .	70	132	Velko Athanassoff . . . .	40
114	Velko Stefanoff . . . .	35	133	Koliu Kostadinoff . . . .	70
115	Janko Nikoloff . . . .	50	134	Kostadin Georgieff . . . .	35
116	Atanas Vankoff . . . .	20	135	Ivan Jourdanoff . . . .	16
117	Georgi Stoyanoff . . . .	65	136	Ivan Koleff . . . .	30
118	Jeliou Todoroff . . . .	53	137	Ismail Ibriamoff . . . .	40
119	Filtcha Rousseff . . . .	50	138	Akif Tchakuroff . . . .	30
120	Peter Jeleskoff . . . .	18	139	Shafku Osmanoff . . . .	35
121	Stoyan Todoroff . . . .	56	140	Ali Ahmedoff . . . .	45
122	Nikola Kostandinoff . . . .	45	141	Hamil Hashimoff . . . .	40
123	Mitko Spasseff . . . .	18	142	Mehmed Osmanoff . . . .	22
124	Kunio Todoroff . . . .	28	143	Rustem Ahmedoff . . . .	22
125	Ussein Ismailoff . . . .	32	144	Yaiya Melichoff . . . .	23
126	Ahmed Dervishoff . . . .	17	145	Osman Hassanoff . . . .	38
127	Radan Doutcheff . . . .	70			

Ghelendjik, 14 April 1918.

(Signed) The Mayor

**P. Todoroff.**

(Signed) The Secretary-Treasurer

**St. Chr. Popoff.**

# LIST № 8.

of the inhabitants of Sreberna, shot by the Roumanians.

№	N a m e	A g e	Where born
1	Georgi Draganoff . . . . .	60	A
2	Georgi N. Simoff . . . . .	25	
3	Stoyan Baitcheff . . . . .	25	
4	Veliko Athanasoff . . . . .	24	
5	Ivan Rousseff Gogosheff . . . . .	70	N
6	Dimiter Savoff . . . . .	50	
7	Stantcho Dimoff . . . . .	23	
8	Slavi V. Todoroff . . . . .	50	
9	Ivan K. Draganoff . . . . .	37	R
10	Angel K. Draganoff . . . . .	39	
11	Roussi H Draganoff . . . . .	24	
12	Tsoni Ivanoff . . . . .	54	
13	Peni Tihoff . . . . .	39	E
14	Ivan Yankoff . . . . .	22	
15	Ivan Tsoneff . . . . .	75	
16	Niko Tsoneff . . . . .	70	
17	Stoyan Tsoneff . . . . .	71	B
18	Ivan Mitanoft . . . . .	60	
19	Kiro Lefteroff . . . . .	45	
20	Peter Iv. Gantcheff . . . . .	42	
21	Stefan Vassileff . . . . .	60	E
22	Iv. Mar. Draganoff . . . . .	26	
23	Gani Mar. Draganoff . . . . .	40	
24	Athanas J. Tishoff . . . . .	23	
25	Eniu M. Trifonoff . . . . .	28	E
26	Nikola M. Trifonoff . . . . .	38	
27	Athanas Eneff . . . . .	50	
28	Nedko Getzoff . . . . .	27	
29	Nikola Marinoff . . . . .	26	R
30	Diniu Raef . . . . .	56	
31	Marin Kotzeff . . . . .	25	
32	Todor Ang Tchetchkoff . . . . .	20	
33	Iv. Mar. Pisseff . . . . .	36	S
34	Gani Mar. Pisseff . . . . .	40	
35	Minko Trifonoff . . . . .	65	
36	Veltcho Ganeff . . . . .	70	
37	Ivan Dragostinoff . . . . .	70	
38	Mitan K. Iv. Diakoff . . . . .	70	
39	Velitchko Iv. Mutafoff . . . . .	26	
40	Ivan Stoyanoff . . . . .	54	

№	N a m e	A g e	Where born
41	Georgi T. Iorgoff . . . . .	55	S R E B E R N A
42	Stefan Kalusheff . . . . .	58	
43	Ivan Christoff . . . . .	60	
44	Peter Dragieff . . . . .	45	
45	Nediu Radeff . . . . .	54	
46	Niko Iv. Dragostinoff . . . . .	42	
47	Marika Kireva . . . . .	5	
48	Kalina N. Kioutchoukova . . . . .	26	

Sreberna, April 14, 1918.

(Signed) The Mayor  
Dr. Rousseff.

(Signed) Secretary-Treasurer  
I. Yankoff.



# LIST № 9.

of the inhabitants of Sreberna, killed in Moldova.

№	N a m e	Age	Occupation
1	Vassil Kuneff . . . . .	54	farmer
2	Athanas Dimoff . . . . .	46	"
3	Kondi Peneff . . . . .	60	"
4	Nikola Koudinoff . . . . .	28	"
5	Raitcho Minkoff . . . . .	29	"
6	Raitcho Rousseff . . . . .	46	school-teacher
7	Kondiu Iv Tormeff . . . . .	54	farmer
8	Nediou Kallinoff . . . . .	28	"
9	Pentcho Stoyanoff . . . . .	50	"
10	Dimo P. Keroff . . . . .	52	"
11	Dimitr V. Tcholak . . . . .	34	"
12	Peter Mitanoft . . . . .	35	"
13	Getzo Giouroff . . . . .	55	"
14	Nicola Kotzeff . . . . .	36	"
15	Kahin Nedeltchoff . . . . .	36	"
16	Peter Draganoff . . . . .	37	"
17	Eniou Athanassoff . . . . .	20	"
18	Todor Jekoff . . . . .	28	"
19	Stoyan Jekoff . . . . .	26	"
20	Dimiter Gertcheff . . . . .	36	"
21	Peni Veltcheff . . . . .	68	"

Silistra, April 14, 1918.

(Signed) The Mayor

**Dr. Rousseff.**

(Signed) The Secretary-Treasurer

**L. Yankoff.**

# LIST № 10.

of persons killed and dead during their exile in Moldova,  
being abducted there from Pandakli, disfrict of Silistra.

№	N a m e	Age	Killed or dead
1	Kosta Dobreff . . . . .	52	died
2	Eniou Athanassoff . . . . .	47	"
3	Koliou Ganeff . . . . .	48	"
4	Kiril Nedelkoff . . . . .	42	"
5	Radi Petroff . . . . .	42	"
6	Georgi Saveff . . . . .	32	"
7	Georgi Marinoff . . . . .	27	"
8	Rassim Ademoff . . . . .	20	"
9	Athanas Miteff . . . . .	17	killed
10	Nediou Georgieff . . . . .	16	died
11	Todor Andonoff . . . . .	46	"
12	Christo Koleff . . . . .	25	"
13	Georgi Ivanoff . . . . .	13	killed

Pandakli, April 9, 1918.

(Signed) The Mayor: **J. Dimitroff.**

# LIST № 11.

of Dobroudjans abducted from the city of Babadag and subsequently killed or dead in Moldova.

№	N a m e	Age	Where deceased
1	Stephan Palanchoff . .	70	Camp of Hush
2	Dontcho Droumeff . .	70	" " Doleni
3	G. Bakardjieff . . . .	72	" " Mortzoum
4	Todor Andreeff . . . .	56	" " Avrameni
5	Boyan Toshkoff . . . .	55	" " Stephaneshti
6	Raitcho Enphedjieff . .	55	" " "
7	Moussa Sherif . . . . .	65	" " "
8	Amed Kourt Mehmedoff	65	" " "
9	Molla Mahmoutolou . .	70	" " "
10	Amed Monstan . . . . .	57	" " "
11	Makhmoud Monstan . .	50	" " "
12	Seiskali Abdullah . . .	55	killed by assault
13	Laze Ibraimoff . . . . .	70	Camp of Stephaneshti
14	Kerim Ali . . . . .	50	" " "
15	Shaban Ismail . . . . .	22	" " "
16	Moustapha Ismail . . .	25	" " "

City of Babadag.

Information collected by **Ivan Jekoff.**

# LIST № 12.

of villagers from Sreberna, shot by the Roumanians.

№	N a m e	Age	№	N a m e	Age
1	Georgi Draganoff . . . .	60	25	Eniou A. Trifonoff . . . .	28
2	Georgi N. Simoff . . . .	25	26	Nikola A. Trifonoff . . . .	38
3	Stoyan Baitcheff . . . .	25	27	Athanas Eneff . . . .	50
4	Veliko Athanasoff . . . .	24	28	Nedko Getsoff . . . .	27
5	Ivan Rousseff Gogosheff	70	29	Nikola Marinoff . . . .	26
6	Dimiter Savoff . . . .	50	30	Eniou Raeff . . . .	56
7	Stantcho Dimoff . . . .	23	31	Martin Kotseff . . . .	25
8	Slavi V. Todoroff . . . .	50	32	Todor A. Tchetchkoff . . . .	20
9	Ivan K. Draganoff . . . .	37	33	Iv. Mar. Pisseff . . . .	26
10	Angel K. Draganoff . . . .	39	34	Gani Marin Pisseff . . . .	40
11	Boni Ivanoff . . . .	24	35	Minko Trifonoff . . . .	65
12	Peni Tikhoff . . . .	54	36	Velcho Ganeff . . . .	70
13	Ivan Yankoff . . . .	39	37	Iv. Dragostinoff . . . .	70
14	Ivan Tsoneff . . . .	22	38	Mitan K. Z. Diakoff . . . .	70
15	Roussi K. Draganoff . . . .	75	39	Velitchko Z. Moutafoff . . . .	26
16	Niko Boneff . . . .	70	40	Iv. Stoyanoff . . . .	54
17	Stoyan Boneff . . . .	71	41	Georgi T. Yorgoff . . . .	55
18	Ivan Mitanoft . . . .	60	42	Stephan Kalousheff . . . .	58
19	Kiro Lefteroff . . . .	45	43	Ivan Christoff . . . .	60
20	Peter Iv. Gantcheff . . . .	42	44	Peter Dragneff . . . .	45
21	Stephan Vassileff . . . .	60	45	Neviou Radeff . . . .	54
22	Iv. Mar. Draganoff . . . .	26	46	Liko Ivan Dragoshinoff . . . .	42
23	Dani Mar. Draganoff . . . .	40	47	Mariika Kireva . . . .	5
24	Athanas Yon. Tishoff . . . .	23	48	Kalina N. Kioutchoukova . . . .	26

Sreberna, April 14, 1918

(Signed) The Mayor: **Dr. Rousseff.**

(Signed) Secretary: **Yankoff.**

# List № 13.

of Dobroudjans abducted and subsequently killed or dead  
in Moldova.

№	N a m e	District	A g e	Number of children	Date of abduction in 1916.	Where deceased
Armoutli						
1	Stephan Draganoff . . .	G A B A D A G	65	6	4/IX	Stephaneshti
2	Michel Todoroff . . .		69	2	"	"
3	Peno Ivanoff . . .		63	4	"	"
4	Georgi Angeloff . . .		66	6	"	"
5	Dragni Peneff . . .		69	6	"	"
6	Raïno Georgieff . . .		70	7	"	"
7	Ivan Christoff . . .		50	3	"	"
8	Stephan Angeloff . . .		69	13	"	"
9	Marin Petkoff . . .		75	5	15/XI	Danjeni Bot
10	Dimiter Todoroff . . .		75	10	"	"
Kongasse						
11	Kosta D. Manoloff . . .	B A B A K	60	5	3/IX	Stephaneshti
12	Stoyan Dimoff . . .		58	7	"	"
13	Stoyan Triphonoff . . .		50	3	"	"
14	Koliou Raitcheff . . .		40	5	"	"
15	Ivan Dimanoff . . .		68	10	"	"
G. Tchamourli						
16	Vassil V. Kasakoff . . .	K O N D J O L A K	46	5	16/IX	Elsheni, Bot.
17	Marin Peneff . . .		50	6	"	Stephaneshti
18	Sandi D. Miteff . . .		50	3	"	"
19	Dimiter Doukhneff . . .		58	4	13/IX	"
20	Vassil Petkoff . . .		35	4	16/IX	Elsheni, Bot.
21	Kourti Vassileff . . .		50	5	"	Stephaneshti
22	Diko Vassileff . . .		60	—	"	"
23	Ivan J. Simeonoff . . .		47	3	"	"
24	Pantcho Iv. Dekoff . . .		54	4	"	"
25	Marin Boeff . . .		50	7	"	"
26	Georgi Dirisheff . . .		70	4	"	"
27	Peter Kiriloff . . .		65	1	"	"
28	Georgi Migleff . . .		65	3	"	"



№	Name	District	Age	Number of children	Date of abduction in 1916	Where deceased
	<b>City of Toultscha</b>					
29	Veliko Mikhoff . . . .	T O U L T C H A K O N D J O L A K	53	5	16/IX	Stephaneshti
30	Sava Dimitroff . . . .		54	5	14/IX	Epoureni
31	Raino R. Gradinaroff . .		41	1	16/VIII	"
32	Yanko Patcheff . . . .		60	4	29/VIII	Galatz
33	Stephan Staneff . . . .		32	—	"	Deleni
34	Dragia Vulkooff . . . .		60	4	4/IX	Epoureni
35	Kosta Peeff . . . . .		50	—	"	"
36	Dragan Christoff . . . .		54	7	"	Deleni
37	Kosta S. Odjakoff . . . .		18	—	"	"
38	Mitiou Draganoff . . . .		42	1	17/VIII	Deleni
39	Dobri Trandafiloff . . . .		60	5	"	Petrikon
40	Geniou Yordanoff . . . .		55	—	"	Saveni
41	Khristo T. Moutaftchieff .		63	3	"	"
42	Pentcho Todoroff . . . .		45	—	"	Avasheni
43	Atanas P. Milkoff . . . .		55	—	"	"
44	Ibram Moladjab . . . . .		36	6	"	"
45	Husein Moladjab . . . . .		42	7	"	"
46	Moustapha Dalbei . . . .		60	2	"	"
47	Hassan Akhmed . . . . .		45	—	"	"
48	Batoum Tahir . . . . .		56	—	"	"
49	Batoum Osman . . . . .		53	—	"	"
50	Idirlis Mahmoud . . . . .		28	—	"	"
51	Bayzat Cezsir . . . . .		40	2	"	"
52	Chaim Agoum . . . . .		50	5	"	"
53	Nasouf Bahifeser . . . .		54	—	"	"
54	Said Onbashi . . . . .		40	5	"	"
55	Manoff Rali . . . . .		50	4	"	"
56	Ismail Ahmed . . . . .		60	4	"	"
57	Mehmed Ismail . . . . .		53	4	"	"
58	Dim. Kmeta Metchito . . .		35	5	"	"
59	Christo Koshitanti . . . .		56	—	"	"
60	Michalaki Markoff . . . .		32	—	"	"
61	Georgi Sharpasoff . . . .		45	—	4/17 IX	"
62	Ilia S. Kiranoff . . . . .		52	3	17/VIII	"
63	Anastas Ivanoff . . . . .		66	4	"	"
64	Christo Ivanoff . . . . .		55	2	"	"
65	Atanas Petroff . . . . .		60	3	"	"
66	Nikola Gourbanoff . . . .		56	5	"	"

# LIST № 14.

of Bulgarians taken away from Garvan, district of Silistra,  
killed or dead in Moldova.

№	Name of deceased	Age	Remark
1	Doïkou Ivanoff . . . . .	33	killed
2	Vasko Ivanoff. . . . .	28	"
3	Nikola Dobreff . . . . .	25	"
4	Yanko Dobreff . . . . .	23	"
5	Yanko Staneff . . . . .	43	dead
6	Peter P. Gheorgieff . . . . .	55	"
7	Koultcho Iv. Gheorgieff . . . . .	20	"
8	Yourdan Tanasoff . . . . .	30	"
9	Yourdan Bogdanoff. . . . .	30	"
10	Yanoul Vasileff . . . . .	43	"
11	Gheorghi Doïkoff . . . . .	35	"
12	Ivan Iv. Raëff. . . . .	20	"
13	Dimiter P. Frateff . . . . .	30	"
14	Stoyan T. Photinofi . . . . .	25	disappeared
15	Gheorgi Ang. Gheorgieff . . . . .	18	"
16	Flori Kotcheff. . . . .	65	"
17	Koudim Roussanoff . . . . .	22	"

(Signed) President: **G. Eneff.**

(Signed) Secretary : **A. V. Tanasoff.**

# LIST № 15.

of persons originally from the village of Bolonka, who have either been assassinated by the Roumanians at Baltadji and Enikeui, or abducted in Moldova and subsequently dead there.

№	N a m e	A g e	№	N a m e	A g e
1	Yorgo Koleff . . . .	60	22	Dobri Nikoloff. . . .	70
2	Ardiou Kr. Belberoff . . . .	55	23	Kristo Andreeff . . . .	55
3	Peni Mikhneff. . . .	50	24	Zvetko Mikhaleff. . . .	52
4	Nikola Khristoff . . . .	35	25	Lazar Yankoff. . . .	44
5	Atanas Grigoroff. . . .	60	26	Roussi J. Yankoff . . . .	49
6	Mito Nikoltcheff . . . .	48	27	Stoïko Trifonoff . . . .	32
7	Kouni Todoroff . . . .	50	28	Dimiter Trifonof . . . .	32
8	Vasil Kaneff . . . .	40	29	Dimiter Pavleff. . . .	18
9	Iordan P. Kotzeff. . . .	20	30	Khristo Khristoff. . . .	20
10	Ivan L. K. Tzaneff . . . .	30	31	Krsto Marinoff. . . .	20
11	Atanasse Ilieff. . . .	46	32	Zani Zaneff. . . .	19
12	Tzoni Boneff . . . .	55	33	Stoyan Iv. Markoff . . . .	65
13	Tzoni Maitcheff . . . .	30	34	Stoïan Stoïanoff . . . .	20
14	Dimiter Mar. Iordanoff. . . .	38	35	Donka Grlgorova . . . .	30
15	Stoïtcho Nedelkoff . . . .	35	36	Peter Nikoloff . . . .	34
16	Ivan Kotseff . . . .	40	37	Mintcho Petroff . . . .	30
17	Todor Angheloff. . . .	48	38	Donko Steffoff. . . .	50
18	Teni Vassiloff . . . .	46	39	Gheorghii Zanoft. . . .	38
19	Dimo N. Daskaloff . . . .	65	40	Alexo Dimoff . . . .	38
20	Trifon Kaltcheff . . . .	60	41	Anghel St. Foutchidjia . . . .	30
21	Nikola Yovtcheff . . . .	60			

(Signed) The Mayor: **G. Stoïanoff.**

(Signed) The Secretary: **Iv. Dimitroff.**

# LIST № 16.

of persons dead from assault, hunger and privations in the intrenched camp of Stefanesti, northern Moldova. They are all inhabitants of the villages of Hadji-Ghiol, Eni-Keui and Kamana, district of Tultcha.

№	N a m e	A g e	№	N a m e	A g e
<b>Hadji-Ghiol</b>			3	Vasil Gheorgoff . . . .	60
1	Veliko Mikhaleff . . . .	70	4	Atanasse Gheorgoff. . . .	65
2	Nino Mikhaltcheff . . . .	75	5	Jetcho Kaneff. . . . .	42
3	Koliou Kostoff. . . . .	50	6	Stoian Boneff. . . . .	62
4	Kosta Atanasoff . . . . .	45	7	Dimiter Petkoff . . . . .	65
5	Dimiter Mikhaltcheff . . . .	60	8	Atanasse Atanasoff . . . .	60
6	Gheorghi Stankoff . . . . .	65	9	Dobri Stankoff . . . . .	60
7	Dimiter Baeff . . . . .	60	10	Kostadin Petroff . . . . .	52
8	Petko Eneff . . . . .	75	<b>Kamana</b>		
9	Kosta Kishisheff . . . . .	65	1	Tontcho Ivanoff . . . . .	50
10	Gheorghi Ilavoff . . . . .	50	2	Mikhal Beitcheff . . . . .	75
<b>Eni-Keui</b>			3	Kostadin Nikoloff . . . . .	50
1	Jeko Dimitroff . . . . .	60	4	Jelesko D. Kosareff . . . .	45
2	Dimo Thinkoff. . . . .	65	5	Koliou Koleff . . . . .	53
			6	Slavi Dimitroff. . . . .	40

NOTE. — Out of 27 persons abducted from Eni-Keui three have escaped and ten have died; out of 14 persons from Hadji-Ghiol only four have come back, the rest have found their graves in Moldova; out of 11 persons from Kamana six have perished so far in the intrenched camp of Stefanesti.

Witnesses: { Dragomir Patchoff  
Ivan Petkoff.

# LIST № 17.

of the inhabitants of Bashkeui and Hadjilar, district of Tultcha, dead from clubbing or from hunger in the intrenched camp of Stefanesti, Moldova.

№	N a m e	Age	№	N a m e	Age
<b>Bashkeui</b>			11	Peter Khristoff . . . .	60
1	Nediou Boyadjieff . .	46	12	Stephan Popoff . . . .	50
2	Stephan Dimitroff . .	46	13	Veliko Nikoloff. . . .	56
3	V. Dimitroff. . . .	45	14	Nikola Ilieff. . . .	56
4	Anghel L. Yorgoff *. .	54	15	Beliou Th. Raïnoff . .	46
5	Stoian Rousseff . . .	54	<b>Hadjilar</b>		
6	Stoian And. Koleff . .	54	1	Marin Gotcheff . . . .	70
7	Peter Veleff . . . .	60	2	Koliou Dineff . . . .	48
8	Veltcho Veleff . . . .	60	3	Natcho Angheloff. . .	65
9	Slavi Neïtcheff. . . .	50	4	Daskal Petko . . . .	70
10	Peter Neïtcheff. . . .	56	5	Maria St. Pagoutcheva.	40

NOTE. — Todor Ivanoff, who has lately returned in Bashkeui, has made to us a written declaration that besides the above-mentioned 15 people from that village 700 out of the 1430 abducted have become victims of Roumanian cruelties.

Data collected by  
Dragomir Patchoff and Ivan Jekoff.

\*) Clubbed to death by the sergeant Barbutsa.



# LIST № 18.

of inhabitants of the villages Doimoushlar, Kaisekli, Hodja-Keui, Sunetch and Yalu-Tchataldja, township of Doimoushlar, district of Silistra, who have either been killed or have died in Moldova.\*

№	N a m e	№	N a m e
<b>Doimoushlar</b>		<b>Kaïsekli</b>	
1	Stoïan Marinoff . . .	30	Assan Toï Assan . . .
2	Dontcho Yourdanoff . .	31	Selim Islïam . . . .
3	Tsani Nikoloff . . . .	32	Achim Achimoff . . .
4	Ivan Moshoff . . . .	33	Shakir Salieff . . . .
5	Atanas At. Mikhoff . .	34	Adil Assanoff . . . .
6	Eniou Iv. H. Tsanoff . .		
7	Gheniou Khristoff . .		
8	Mikhal Kirtcheff . . .		<b>Hodja-keui</b>
9	Achim A. Akache . . .	35	Kostadin Draganoff . .
10	Bokir Aliche . . . .	36	Stoïtcho Gheorghieff .
11	Marin Docheff . . . .		
12	Rakhim Pandoff . . .		<b>Sunetch</b>
13	Doniou Petroff . . . .		
14	Peter Christoff . . . .	37	Atip Ali Osman . . . .
15	Kiro Petroff . . . .	38	Mikhal Yakouvenkoff .
16	Stoïko Krusteff . . . .	39	Khalif Topaloff . . . .
17	Eniou Kyroff . . . .		
18	Pavle Staneff . . . .		<b>Yalu-Tchataldja</b>
19	Dokou Iliëff . . . .		
20	Eniou Todoroff . . . .	40	Ivan G. Saroff . . . .
21	Dimo Velikoff . . . .	41	Radi Stoïtcheff . . . .
22	Pavliou Ivanoff . . . .	42	Ali H. Nedjib Hodja .
23	Doniou K. Vlaïkoff . .	43	Akhmed B. Akhmedoff
24	Ivan Staneff . . . .	44	Afouz Mehm. Usseïnoff
25	Krusto Tcherneff . . .	45	Salim H. Ibsaloff . . .
26	Dimiter T. Bakaloff . .	46	Ali H. Moustafoff . . .
27	Todor Yovtcheff . . . .	47	Osman Odja . . . .
28	Assan O. Moustafoff . .	48	Diva Lazaroff . . . .
29	Assan Rashidoff . . . .	49	Atanas Dimitroff . . . .

# LIST № 19.

of the inhabitants of the township Golemo Kainardja, district  
of Silistra, killed or dead in Moldova.

№	Name of deceased	Age	birthplace
1	Sava Markoff . . . . .	—	G. Kaınardja
2	Dimiter Petkoff . . . . .	—	"
3	Radi Petkoff. . . . .	—	"
4	Tsvetko Vasileff. . . . .	—	"
5	Peni Dimitroff . . . . .	—	"
6	Michael Todoroff. . . . .	—	"
7	Philip Ivanoff . . . . .	—	"
8	Marin Toneff . . . . .	—	"
9	Ilia Stoyanoff . . . . .	—	"
10	Ivan G. Almadjieff . . . . .	—	"
11	Mintcho Jelesoff . . . . .	—	"
12	Marin Velikoff . . . . .	—	"
13	Anghel Gheorghieff. . . . .	—	"
14	Peter Tofiloff . . . . .	—	"
15	Momtchou Dimitroff . . . . .	48	Toptchü
16	Michael N. Kiourktchieff . . . . .	58	"
17	Ivan Mikhoff . . . . .	22	"
18	Dobri Vultchanoff. . . . .	56	"
19	Krusto Iv. Gamanoff. . . . .	55	"
20	Nikolaï Iv. Palieff . . . . .	25	"
21	Rifat Kodja Alieff . . . . .	25	"
22	Ahmed Hadji Moustafoff . . . . .	50	"
23	Mehmed Ahmedoff . . . . .	20	"
24	Eyoub Alieff . . . . .	35	Kaibular
25	Mehmed Kara Moustafoff. . . . .	36	"
26	Yanaki Petroff.. . . .	50	"
27	Hadji Moustan. . . . .	70	"
28	Moustapha Husseinoff. . . . .	28	"
29	Osman Feradoff . . . . .	45	"
30	Afouz Mehmed . . . . .	50	"
31	Afouz Ibram Feradoff . . . . .	45	"
32	Kadir Osmanoff . . . . .	45	"
33	Ivan Kassaboff. . . . .	22	"
34	Rousan Gheorghieff. . . . .	22	"
35	Koliou Radeff . . . . .	39	"
36	Ibram Ahmedoff . . . . .	25	"
37	Vurban Angheloff . . . . .	30	H. Tchelebi

№	Name of deceased	Age	birthplace
38	Miniou Kourteff . . . . .	30	H. Tchelebi
39	Gheorgi Nestoroff . . . . .	40	"
40	Gheorgi Rousseff . . . . .	55	"
41	Ivan Dimitroff . . . . .	33	"
42	Shtarban Nikoloff . . . . .	26	"
43	Stoiou Peneff . . . . .	40	"
44	Ivan Peneff . . . . .	25	"
45	Dimiter Boneff. . . . .	50	"
46	Eniou Nideltcheff. . . . .	40	"
47	Tontcho Pavleff . . . . .	50	"

Gol. Kaïnardja, 15 April 1918.

(Signed) The Mayor: **H. Nikoloff.**

(Signed) Secretary: **Yon. Bosivoff.**

To follow in a second volume.

The deported Dimitër Dobreff, from Denisler, county of Tutrakan, has given us the following evidence in writing:—

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of September, 1916, the inhabitant of Denisler, Mirtcho Rousseff, was killed with a knife by a Roumanian soldier while on the road from Oltenitza to Radeshti.

The Roumanian military authorities at Radeshti executed by shooting 24 Bulgarians from Dobroudja suspected as spies. Two of them are natives of Antimovo, two others from Rahovo. The birthplace of the rest is not known.

On the road from Radeshti to Karsovo six other Bulgarian prisoners were killed.

George Mintcheff, 18 years, inhabitant of Saru-Keui, Tutrakan county, was brutally clubbed to death by the Roumanians in Kozmeshti, Moldova.





Members of Commission of Inquiry for the Roumanian atrocities in Dobroudja, conducted by Mr. Warfield, American Chargé d'Affaires.





Bulgarians from Dobroudja, on their way back from exile.

A. SPASSOFF

## In Dobritch Liberated.

Joy and Sorrow.

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How can I describe in haste the death of 57 citizens (See table № 1) killed within two days, slaughtered in the streets, in prison, at their homes, at and about the railway station? It is difficult to make full note of the removal of 83 prominent citizens as hostages, and the requisition of 322 persons, together with so many cattle and horses, carried away into the smaller towns and villages of Roumania and whose fate is still unknown. Description is quite difficult, for every person murdered or carried into exile has a tragedy of its own. And yet statistical data can give some idea of the crimes perpetrated. This took place in the city of Dobritch, three years ago, a town with a population of eighteen thousand inhabitants.

There is not a house without its victim, no family without someone dead or carried into exile. The glorious

days of liberation are darkened by the mourning for its victims. The sorrow would not be so cruel if the victims had fallen on the battlefield. But such a death! Sacrifices for liberty given outside of the battlefield are sacrifices deplored the most.

This is what happened before the entrance of Bulgarian troops in the town.

August 23 — fully seven days before declaration of war — an order was issued that all men possessing a cart, a carriage, horse, cow or a sheep should immediately present themselves at the town hall. Carts and carriages were loaded with wheat and were forcibly sent north together with their owners. In that way fully 322 persons were gathered and sent away northward. Up to this day no one knows what became of them, though very inauspicious rumours are circulating as to their fate.

Two days before the retreat of the Roumanian army police agents were ransacking the streets and houses hunting all prominent citizens upon the pretext that the prefect Georgescu was looking for them on important business. Those that refused were taken by force to police headquarters. Thus they managed to assemble 83 citizens and put them in prison. They were hostages which the army carried away with them when retreating and placed no one knows where. Rumour says they are at Galatz. But who is spreading this rumour, who knows whether the victims are still alive? I tried to learn something positive, but with no avail.

**September 2 and 3 an awful carnage took place. Men and women, healthy and robust, were pursued in the streets, snatched from their homes and taken to a police station**

where they were butchered outright. Only a few hours before the flight of the Roumanian army 45 Bulgarian citizens of Dobritch were thus massacred. The railway station was turned into a slaughter house. In one of the rooms I counted and photographed about 30 cadavers. Before the station house were more. There are some killed in the streets as well. Up to this moment I have collected the names of 57 inhabitants butchered in the city alone, and I am sending you the list. But their number is, without any doubt, much larger, for every day new cadavers are being discovered in the vicinity.

The terror-stricken inhabitants concealed themselves the best they could in order to escape the savagery of the Roumanian soldiers. Thanks to the rapid advance of our troops the Roumanians could not fully accomplish their wishes. This rapidity prevented them to put fire to the city, as they had fully intended to do.

(Mir, September 25, 1916.)

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WANDA ZEMBRZUSKA

I.

## In Blood-Stained Dobroudja.

Notes taken during the voyage of a Commission of Inquiry.

Conducted by Mr. Warfield, United States Representative at Sofia.

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Sad and gloomy was the day we arrived at Dobritch, the 17<sup>th</sup> instant at 9 o'clock in the morning, after 49 hours of travel. And ever since that hour we have seen nothing else but sad and gloomy sights. Just outside the railway station we beheld a heap of human heads with black head gear. Mostly faces and eyes of women exhausted from crying and suffering. Ah, those eyes! Eyes terrified at some horrible fear, red from crying. As soon as we left the train and mingled with the crowd a black shadow lodged in our souls. We felt as though we were taking part in a requiem mass at church. We listened, in a profound silence, to the speech of the mayor of Dobritch and Major T., who, on the





Mr. Warfield, Chargé d'Affaires of the United States of America, head of the Commission of Inquiry for the Roumanian atrocities in Dobroudja.



Bulgarians from Dobroudja, on their way back from exile.

part of the city and of the army, were welcoming Mr. Warfield, United States representative at Sofia, and thanking him for the interest he was manifesting, in the name of truth and right, in the Roumanian atrocities committed in Dobroudja upon the Bulgarian population. In the meantime one could hear, here and there, stifled cries.

Then commenced the sad tales. Everyone had something to say, and I cannot tell which one of these stories was the saddest and most touching.

Was it this one of a young woman whose husband had been carried away by the Roumanians and of whom she did not know whether he is dead or alive, most likely, however, that he has been tortured; or was it this of citizens who had suffered pillage and conflagration? These stories are always horrible, always touching, always sad, possessing a despairing sadness.

They took us to a building, situated close to the railway station, serving as a Roumanian prison. Immediately upon entering it an infectious smell reached our nostrils. The cause of it was soon discovered: there were several small rooms, with rotten straw on the floor, torn up mattresses and rags drenched in blood, and large pools of dried blood in the corners and under the windows. On the walls and on the floor one could distinguish traces of bullets. The same thing at the door and in the court. The stones were red with blood as though lambs had been slaughtered there, and on the outside walls one could see traces of rifle bullets.

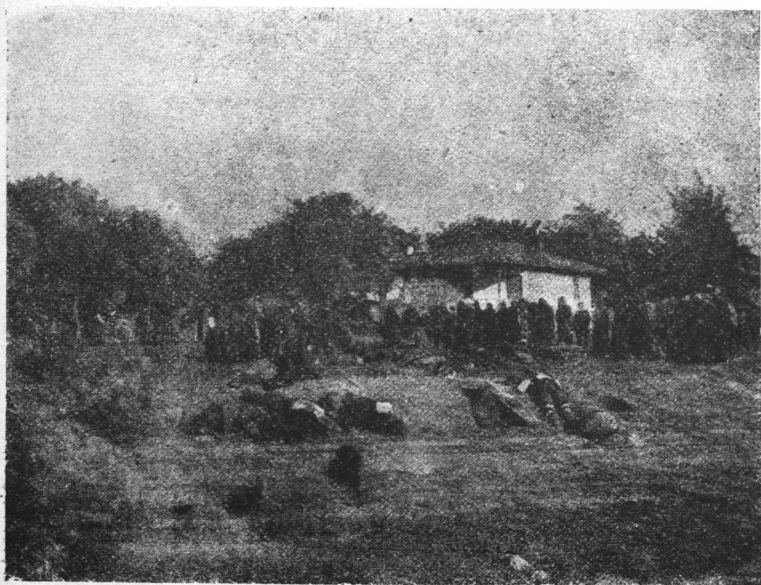
We looked in silence, listening with trembling heart.

Two days before declaration of war the Roumanian military authorities had imprisoned in this building about sixty Bulgarians and Turks, after having hunted for them in the streets and after having looked for them in their houses. Quite indiscriminately they took hold of everyone that came in their way.

Only those were saved who could select a good hiding place: some in the corn lofts, others in cellars, in straw-mattresses, and God knows where else. On August 29 a second man-chase was instituted and a second group was imprisoned in that building. The poor wretches, heaped up twenty or thirty in a small room, stayed there several days without taking any food or a drop of water, not being allowed to go out and satisfy any kind of demand. All the time exposed to blows, mockery and injuries on the part of the Roumanian soldiers. The 30<sup>th</sup> of August a horrible crime was perpetrated: Roumanian soldiers, under the command of an officer, pushed the prisoners one by one in the court and rifled them. Others opened the windows and fired upon the pile of living corpses. Seeing that the prisoners concealed themselves in the corners and under the windows, they entered inside and left no one alive.

The same tragedy took place in another building in the city, transformed also into a prison. And how many were rifled in the streets!

This is not a tale borrowed from the history of the inquisition of the middle ages, or of the invasion of the Huns ten centuries ago. These are authentic facts which have taken place these very days. We have seen photographs of cadavers piled up one on top of the other, we have read their long catalogue and we have spoken with some of the victims severely wounded, escaped by a



Roumanian atrocities in the village of Sreberna.





Bulgarians carried away from Kara-Omour, a village near Silistra. Only women and children have returned from exile. Photographs by. Mr. Warfield.



Women from Sreberna, violated by the Roumanians.

miracle, for the Roumanian brutes charged a second time upon those who gave a sign of life.

**In a small hospital of the town there are nine of these victims: young people between 20 and 30 years, an old man of seventy and a child between 8 and 9 years. They showed us their arms and legs with transpierced wounds, breasts covered with bruises and body full of blue marks. They related to us how they have been snatched from their homes, from their gardens and fields, bound and thrown into prison where they had been shot. They had escaped because they happened to be covered over by other corpses and were taken for dead. They remained in this position until the arrival of the Bulgarian troops. Till that moment no one had dared enter and see what had taken place in the prison, because Roumanian patrolles circulated in the streets until the last moment.**

To be sure, all the victims were previously despoiled of everything they possessed and their houses promptly pillaged.

It is no wonder then that when these victims recognized a Roumanian sergeant-major (brought subsequently into the hospital because of his wounds) as their executioner they wanted to lynch him; the medical orderlies had to snatch him away from their hands.

It should be noticed that everywhere the soldiers have acted under the direction of their officers. It is clear that all this had been accomplished after a previously arranged plan.

To be sure, it is much easier and less perilous to shoot defenceless people rather than fight the enemy in the trenches.

The late Bulgarian school-teachers and functionaries, together with the priests, were taken to the other side of the Danube before general mobilization was declared. They say they are now at Dorohoi, more than eighty of them. Their fate is most inauspicious, because no one can suppose that the Roumanians, rendered furious because of their insuccesses on the battlefield, would be more lenient toward them than those whom they killed in Dobritch. And yet, there are conditions when death is preferable to life.

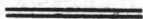
From the 9<sup>th</sup> of August Dobritch offered a horrid sight: a great multitude of wagons, cattle and horses, in charge of peasants under military escort, gathered from all the surrounding villages. This swarm of peasant wagons kept on day and night for seven days. There were more than thirty thousand wagons loaded with wheat. It was a trick on the part of the Roumanians by means of which they succeeded in carrying away from Dobroudja all wagons, all cattle and most of the male population.

It was generally known that in Roumania existed a state monopoly for the sale of wheat, so that no one could sell a grain of wheat without special permit. August 9 the Roumanian authorities announced that if the peasants wished to sell their wheat, all they had to do was to load it on their wagons and take it to the nearest railway station, where a commission would receive it and pay for it. Ignorant that it was only a trick, the peasants did what they were bidden. But when they reached

the nearest station they were told that the commission is one station further on, and so they travelled on until they reached Tchernavoda. Here they were relieved of their horses and wagons and were taken over to the other side of the Danube into Roumania proper.

How poor Dobroudja is sad and desolate now! We were convinced of this while we visited some of the villages in the vicinity, which will be the subject of another article.

(Mir, September 26, 1916.)



WANDA ZEMBRZUSKA.

II.

## Dobroudja Desolated.

Notes taken during the voyage of a Commission of Inquiry.

Conducted by Mr. Warfield, United States representative at Sofia.

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Twelve kilometers from Silistra is the village of Babouk. It had 400 houses before the war, 300 of them are now blackened ruins only. Millions of kilograms of golden wheat were destroyed by the flames. Young girls and old women are around us sobbing bitterly. „We have no houses. no homes; who will bring lumber and who is going to rebuild our homes? We have no food. Our clothes are stolen. Winter is coming; where will we be sheltered with our little ones, how will we feed and dress them?“

As though entire Dobroudja raised a voice of complaint through the mouth of these women, expecting an urgent reply from her older sister, Bulgaria.



In this village the most touching tale was that of Zlata Draganova, an old woman of 75 years. August 28, Assumption Day, when all God-fearing people were at church, the village was surrounded by the eighth company, 35<sup>th</sup> regiment of infantry. All worshippers were dragged outside the church and taken to Baltadjenikeuy. The captain gave the order that all peasants should leave the village, for he did not wish them to see the Russian troops who were to pass that day through their village. Together with few other old women, they were the only inhabitants of the village. She was left at her home because of her advanced age. Besides, she had to remain because of her grandson who was very ill at the time.

Sunday, September 3, they set fire to the village. Next day, Monday, they started to burn her house, but she pleaded earnestly to spare her, for she had neither sons living nor relatives who could rebuild her house: she had no one but her grandson, a small boy. But the Roumanians would not listen. An officer pulled his sword and whirled it above her head. She fell on the ground in a swoon. Soon after, she was covered with three dead corpses. When she came to her senses there were no more Roumanian soldiers in the village.

The daughter of Zlata Tsoneva related how they have found the

head and underclothes of her mother covered with blood, killed close to the village. We were horrified upon hearing her tale.

At Baltadjenikeuy were assembled all the population of Babouk and Kotchina. This village did not suffer much by fire, but Roumanian bullets are seen everywhere.

September 5 a Roumanian officer issued an order that all males from ten years upwards should be gathered together. In the meantime assault commenced and general slaughter. Many peasants were killed in their houses or on the street, while others were being grouped in one place, put in a row and rifled.

Forty men thus perished in the village. Only the women were taken to Silistra; they came back after the Bulgarians entered that town, the biggest part dishonored and despoiled of their clothing. They are all Turkish women, most of them dressed now in a big shawl instead of the regulation feredjeh.

All cattle and animals in general have been carried away, but there is great deal of wheat left.

It appears to me that of all villages that we visited Sreberna is the one that has suffered the most. When the Bulgarian troops entered, the village was still in flames. The streets and gutters presented a horrible sight: they were filled with men and women killed, among them even children of twelve years. The very moment when Bulgarian troops entered the village the women left their hiding

places and recognized, among the victims, their husbands, fathers, sons and brothers. It is difficult to describe what happened next. It was such a heart rending spectacle that even the soldiers shuddered. We have seen photographs of the victims and we have spoken with the mothers and wives. There were 57 killed in all. The rest were carried away no one knows where, and their fate perchance is more cruel than those butchered, who are lying dead on their native soil, in sight of the dear ones.

The women of this village were all taken to Silistra. On the road, and especially during a halt at Aidemir, they were at the mercy of the Roumanian soldiers. From the younger women they took the children from their arms and threw them on the ground; the women were hit across the mouth with a stick or a whip to prevent them from giving an outcry. The soldiers violated them in turn, so much so that they fainted. I spoke with these women who, avoiding my look because of their shame, related to me their martyrdom. Most painful impression gave me Iordana Nikolaova, 20 years old. Her husband is dead, her child, thrown brutally on the ground, is also dead, and she has become insane because of horror and suffering. To all my questions she replied: „My head roars, my head roars“, and she looked stupidly

ahead, her eyes looking vaguely in the distance.

In order to decide, so to speak, who was the prettiest among them, the soldiers would stick burning matches under the nose of their victims. I saw many of them with traces of this cruelty on their faces. Some of them had their clothes raised and the nude skin burnt with cigarettes. The most beautiful among them were taken over to Aidemir, for use of the officers.

We also visited the village of Kalipetrovo where out of 3000 inhabitants have remained only 48 men, 16 women and 7 children, hidden at the time of abduction in the forest. All the rest were carried away the other side of the Danube. At Aidemir only 37 had remained out of a total of 3000. Before general mobilization was declared they took from both villages all animals and carts laden with wheat. All houses have been pillaged, some of them burned. It was owing to the sudden retreat on September 6 that the villages were not completely burned. (See photographs by Mr. Warfield)

(Mir, October 2, 1916).



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